



Here the Author did intend to have placed his *Effigies* and
Coat of Armes, but the exact *Sculpture* thereof being so
chargeable, and his *Sufferings* so great, for which he hath
yet no recompence, he is enforced to be frugal in expences;
and therefore intreats the gentle Reader to accept of the
Verses that he composed to be printed underneath the
same; and courteously to correct the *Printers Errata*.

These are the Verses.

*This Figure here doth lively represent
A Courage bold, but clearly Innocent,
Not prone to injure feeble Age, nor Youth,
But ever zealous to divulge the Truth;
Who Schisme and horrid Treason did despise,
And unto Heaven for Truth and Justice cries;
Who for his love to Englands King and Church
Hath been despis'd, revil'd and suffer'd much:
Yet Truth of worth, and Honour gained so,
By being dub'd the Tyrant Rebel's foe.
Peruse this Book, and you may surely see
Some Signal Emblems of His Loyaltie.*

J. W.

Fidelitatis *Felicitas.*
 Fendum



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To the most Illustrious, High and Mighty
M A J E S T Y of 12

C H A R L E S the II.

By the Grace of God K I N G of Great
Britain, France and Ireland; Defender
of the Faith, &c.

*The Humble Declaration of JOHN VVENLOCK of
Langham, in the County of Essex Esquire, an Utter Barrister of
near Forty years continuance, in that Honourable Society of Lin-
colnes-Inne.*

Being first *A Supplicatory Preface and Discourse to His Majesty*, and
then humbly shewing the great and dangerous Troubles and
intollerable Oppressions of Himself and His Family, and the
true occasion thereof, in the wofull Times of these late most
unhappy Distractions.

Wherein the perfect Loyalty of a true Subject, and the perfide-
ous malice and cruelty of a Rebell, are evidently deciphe-
red, and severally set forth to the publick view in
their proper colours, as a Caution for England.

Hereunto are annexed certain *Poems*, and other *Treatises*, com-
posed and written by the Author upon several Occasions,
concerning the late most horrid and distracted
Times, and never before published.

*Nemo plus videtur estimare virtutem, nemo magis illi esse
devotus, quam qui boni viri famam perdidit, ne con-
scientiam perderet.*

Sen. 72. Ep.

*Fortitudo tua, fiducia fidelis conscientia.
Conscientia mala, bene sperare non potest.*

Bern.

Aug.

London, Printed by T. Childe, and L. Parry, for the
Author, and are to be sold at most Bookellers
shops in London and Westminster-hall. 1652.



ERRATA.

IN Page 9. l. 2. for are, read *at*. in p. 13. l. 23. for happily, r. *unhappily*. in p. 14. l. 11. for, for any, r. *or for any*. in p. 18. l. 1. for gratitude, r. *gratuitie*. in l. 6. for stickle, r. *strive*. l. 11. for works, r. *words*. l. 19. for defection, r. *defects*. in p. 29. l. 11. for months, r. *twelve months*. p. 30. in the title, for demeans, r. *demeanour*. in p. 34. the last line but one, for, to themselves, r. *to the ruine of themselves*. in p. 35. l. 14. for to honoured, r. *to be honoured*. p. 37. l. 21. for four, r. *fourty*. p. 38. l. 12. for there, r. *and there*. p. 40. for very proper, r. *prime and proper*. l. 19. and p. 52. for nor, r. *and*. p. 56. l. 1. for fanings, r. *failings*. p. 64. l. 37. for coarſe. r. *course*.





The Epistle Dedicatory.

To the High and Mighty Majesty
OF
Charles the II.

By the Grace of GOD King of Great Britain,
&c. Defender of the Faith, &c.

Most Royal, Religious, and Sacred Sovereign,

WHEN I had first most humbly presented my
petition to your Majesty upon the Long Galle-
rie stairs towards St. James his park in Trinitie Term
1660. I did presently implore your Majestie to be pleased
but to peruse the same, and then my self your poor subject
should reap abundance of satisfaction therein; and your
Majesties gracious answer unto me was, with a reitera-
tion of these words, I shall, I shall, and within lesse
then an hour after, I did hear, that your Majestie had
performed your princely promise, for which I have ever
since

The Epistle Dedicatory.

since desired to render to your Grace, the most humble and hearty thanks of a loyal and gratefull subject: And now most humbly prostrating my self at the feet of your Majesties clemency again, I do most submissively and earnestly begg at your gracious hands one favour more, beseeching your Majesty to be pleased to accept of and to patronize these my weak endeavours, which most humbly and thankfully I do Dedicate and present to your Grace; beseeching your Majesty to vouchsafe the perusal of this Treatise, at some time when the heavie burden of those so serious, and urgent affairs imposed upon you, will admit of an intermission: and so your Majestie shall be truly informed what my condition is and hath been; which being once known to your Grace, I shall rest in abundance of quiet, and with alacritie submit to such success, as the good Providence and will of God, and your gracious Pleasure shall thereupon suffer to be produced; Royall Sir, I am one of those, that have been a Cordiall loving and obedient Subject, in my Dutie and Allegiance to your Royall and Religious Father and Grandfather of glorious and blessed Memorie, yet my Fate was never hitherto so propitious, as to afford me any further favour then the common protection of a Subject: and if the unhappinesse of the Times, by the occasion of our sins, had not late deprived us of that royal Favour, then in all probabillity I might have been in
such

The Epistle Dedicatory.

such a posture before this time, as I should not now have been necessitated, to seek an Office, to maintain me in my old Age : But I have almost been bereaved of all my means and practise from my Age of 40 years to 60. the best time of proficiencie in all a mans life : and yet I praise God for it, I can with a good comfort and courage say to your Majestie that I am no absolute Beggar, but only in Relation to God, and your good Grace, that is his lawfull and undoubted Deputie here upon the Earth; for by means of Gods mercie, and your Majesties so happy and Fortunate Accessse to your just and Royal rights, I am still in lawfull possession of an Estate in Lands, which although it be but small, yet it is of a Noble Tenure, being late holden of your Majestie by a whole Knights Fee, and which hath lineally been enjoyed by my Ancestors, and continued in my name, for the space of near 500. years, ever since the Reign of King Henry the 3d. and that is more then some great Ones are able to asserit, and certainly a blessing hath been upon it, in the so long continuance thereof, being at first honestly bought with their Money, and a Bargain I think more justifiable, then some kind of purchasing either of Honour or Offices : And although my name be at present and of late in some obscuritie, yet it hath not been allwayes so in the times of Antiquitie, for in the Reign of that Valiant and Famous Prince King

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Edward the 1. there lived one of my name which had the Honour to be Lord high Treasurer of England, and in the Reignes of King Henry the 6th and King Edward the 4th there was another of my name, that was a Knight of the Garter, and of the Rhodes, and also a Noble and warrlike Baron of Wenlock in the County of Salop, from which place my Ancestors were first derived, and had their Extraction, as appears by Antient evidence & Records; I shall be heartily glad if I can but make your Ma^{tie} to smile at these my Relations, but I entreat your Majestie to beleve that it is not fondly a vain glorious humour, that prompts me to relate these things, but my desire is to give a gentle caution to some gilded Mushromes or pursie supercilious Upstarts of the new edition that esteem themselves to be the only brave men, despising others, that are brought low by their sufferings, and contemning all learning and loyalty, that is destitute of a golden key, which they corruptly conceive to be the only means to open the door-lock, that leads to preferment; but your Majestie well knows, how and when to conferr your Favours, and though some of your Majesties suffering Friends are not looked upon so soon as they expected, yet their hopes are still firm enough, and we know, that, *Desiderata diu dulcius obtinentur*, and we can wait with patience, but must not be too negligent, *perentis negligentia*

The Epistle Dedicatory.

negligentia reprehenditur ubi de dantis misericordia non dubitatur, and of your Majesties mercie there is sound experience, and it is a prime policie for your Grace in convenient time to reward Loyaltie, for in so doing it will give Occasion to others to have the better esteem thereof, Regis ad exemplar totus componitur orbis, but if vertue be now neglected & let pass without regard, how few hereafter will ever endeavour to be good in so bad times? and one saith, that both pitie and sin it were, that such whose light the late Egyptian Darknes could never extinguish, should now be suffered to sit in obscuritie. Som perhaps that shall read this book, will take my expressions to be rash and violent, favouring more of animosity, then prudence, but when Cicellus his life was in danger it made his dumb son to speak and cry out: and when the King the Father of our Countrie, the Church our Mother, and the peace of the whole Kingdom, were so treacherouslie exposed to the danger of utter ruine, what true hearted Son or Subject, could be so supinely silent, as not bitterlie to reprove such horrid actions: Qui tacet consentire videtur: but such as have tasted any true relish of Religion, do well know, they must not be mutes in matters of such moment: Dissimulation may serve the turn for a time, and in the view of a carnal eye it may seem to procure some good, but we ought

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not to do evill that good may come thereof; Hypocrisie is a sin so odious in the sight of God, and so contrarie to his divine nature (who is truth it self) as those that practise the same, can never expect to be matriculated members of the celestial Societie; but such as wait for their souls comfort, must be content to forsake all, rather then to part with a good conscience, and so endanger the soul; But I feare that too many of late, have stifled their Consciences, to keep their estates and maintain their reputation amongst the Vulgar, but such policie will not allways go away with the Garland: it was well said of a Noble Spaniard once in England, that he would never forfeit his Soul and his Honour, to save his Life; and indeed some brave Spirits, but meer Moralists, have thought it a more Noble Exploit, to preserve Honour then Life, and could never buckle to any dishonourable thing, but in despite of Ambition, and desire of gain, or the pressures of Necessitie, they have still resolved to tread in the pathes of Virtue. And how many Heathens, as Codrus a King of Athens, Curcius a Noble Knight of Rome and almost infinite others recorded in Historie, have freely exposed themselves to unavoidable danger and death, for the good and safety of their Country, whose memory ever since hath been immortall; and can Christians adventure upon any design too dangerous, when the glorie

The Epistle Dedicatory.

rie of God, the Honour and Power of his sacred Deputie, and the Religion and Peace of their native Nation, lay all in the dust involved in blood? Pardon my presumption I beseech your Majestie in what I have here inserted amiss, or unworthy the view of so roial and exquisite an eie: and then I cannot but be confident, that your Grace will take some pitie upon me, being now grown into years, and disabled by my great sufferings and losses to put on and preferre my self, as some others do, for I finde the Poet to be a true Prophet, that long since said,

Haud facile emergunt, quorum virtutibus
obstat

Res angusti domi ——

but this defect may soon be supplied by the least glimpse of your Majesties favour: and I am sure your Majestic well knowes, that it is the Masters honour to take notice of a faithfull servant; and that such as dare declare and stand to the truth in bad times of danger are none of the worst subjects. And I doubt not but that your Majesty in due time, will most roially perform whatsoever your loial and loving subjects may in truth of modestie and justice expect from your gracious bands: and that your Grace shall attain unto and accomplish all those happie and blessed intents and ends for the which your
Omnipotent

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Omnipotent Creator hath so justly and mercifully restored and advanced your Grace, to the glorious throne of your so eminent Ancestours: Where God grant that your Majestie and your Roial posteritie may safely sit and triumphantly reigne to Gods glorie, the Churches peace, and these Kingdoms happinesse, even so long as the Sun and Moon shall shine upon the face of the earth. So will ever Pray

Your Majesties Loyal, Humble,
and Officious Subject,

John Wenlock.



To the Kings Most Excellent Majestie.

*Most Royal and Magnificent Monarch, and
my Sovereign Lord :*

IT is a Proverb of the Wisest amongst Earthly Princes, that righteous lips are the delight of Kings, and they love him that speaketh right : for he that speaks the truth, sheweth forth righteousness ; and all such as be true in heart, shall follow the same : and there is good reason for their Encouragement to proceed on in such a Virtuous way as tendereth to eternall felicity, for certainly the time will come, when that saying of the Psalmist, will be verified, and made manifest to the World ; There is sprung up a light for the righteous, and joyfull gladnesse for such as be true hearted : and the Lord God likewise layeth up sound Wisdome for the righteous, and is a sure Buckler for them that walk uprightly ; for the fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdome, and a good understanding or successe have all they that do his Commandments the praise of it endureth for ever. And this was truly experimented in that worthy and religious Esquire of the body to that mighty Monarch *Darius*, when he contended with his fellowes, which of them should write the wisest sentence : It was the desire of his soul to be instrumental towards the re-edifying of the decayed Temple and City of *Jerusalem* ; and in respect of those good desires, it pleased the good spirit of God to inspire so much Wisdome and Understanding into his heart, as when the Conclusive part of his sentence (which was, *That above all things truth beareth away the Victory*) came into consideration before the wise and mighty Princes, he then who had undertaken the patronage and defence of truth, was without contradiction applauded to be the wisest man, by that generall shout of the People ; *great is truth and mighty above all things* : and we need not doubt, since by the alone
B mercy

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A Supplicatorie Discourse to His Majestie.

mercy of God, thole dark and prodigious Clouds of Ignorance, perversity, and sedition, that have so long obnubilated the understanding of this Nation, do in some measure begin to be now dispelled, by the Glorious splendor, and sun-shine of your Majesties most gracious, and long-desired presence, but that such of your true and loving Subjects, as with loyal hearts, and sincere and just expressions, though with feeble hands and weak abilities, do now cordially endeavour to employ their talents, and lend their aid by the casting of a mite into the Kingdoms treasure, towards the rebuilding of that Sacred Temple of truth and peace amongst us; shall never want the happy influence of your Majesties good countenance and protection: nor the favourable censure of any that have but ventured to keep themselves immaculate, or but lately learned to be unspotted lovers, and maintainers of the truth. For whosoever he be that hath attained any sound notion of truth, must of necessity love the same in his inward parts, neither dares he at any time forsake or deny the defence thereof. For indeed God himself and his Word is the truth, that every true Christian to his power ought to justify and defend, and if any person be so Sacrilegious as to deny this, he may too soon find it to be true, that he which denies the truth, doth deny God who is truth it self; and our Saviour saith, *That if they deny him before men, he will deny them before his Father which is in Heaven.*

Most Royal Sir, I humbly crave your Gracious pardon for my presumption, in thus boldly vindicating the truth; for the sincere maintaining whereof, both my self and all mine (all circumstances duly considered) have as dearly and deeply suffered, as any other, that have escaped with their lives: And I doubt not, but that I may with a safe Conscience, and without Ostentation speak it, that I have alwayes endeavoured to the uttermost of my Abilities, and upon all occasions, to do and perform both unto your Majesties blessed Father, and also to your Royal self; far more cordiall and constant services, then many others that now participate of the bright Beames of your glory, but I do envy no mans happinesse; nay let them take all since my Lord the King is now returned home in peace. And as your Majesties happy access to your just and indubitable rights, of the
Crown

Crown of England will I trust adde some repose, and tranquillity to my poor aged body, and mean Estate; so above that I desire, if it please God to be at peace and quiet in my mind, at which Haven of happinesse and content, I should scarcely ever have arrived, if I had not made the Adventure, of thus rendring these intrinsecal thoughts and conceptions of my mind to the publike view: Neither could I devise otherwise, how I might make your Majestie and other Worthies of the Nation acquainted, with the truth of my demeanour and sufferings, which I much desired to publish, to the intent also, that some who are deeply drowned in the oblivion of their sins, may hereby if they please, be put in mind of the ugly deformed shape, and the base and absurd maliciousnesse of Rebellion: and truly to repent of their former Follies, and do no more so; and that my Posterity and others, by mine Example, may be encouraged to the imitation of my Loyalty, and faithfullnesse in succeeding ages. But I confesse that formerly I had good Friends, which might and would (if they were now extant) have commended the truth of my Condition, to your Majesties Royall and Religious consideration: but the change of times, and death hath deprived me of such comfortable Assistance; and being I was made to reprove others, I am now in a manner left Friendlesse alone, and am as a by-word and wonder unto many: and yet no wonder it is, *Libere enim & sine adulatione veritatem predicantes, & gesta prava vita arguentes, gratiam non habent apud homines.* And yet why should I tremble, to make this my addresse to your Sacred Majestie, that is so lively a representation of my Creator, for to his allmighty mercy in the merries of Jesus Christ, who is for ever truth it self, I may at all times with a pure heart, and humble Spirit, be confidently bold to make my approach: and I beseech your Majesty to be pleased to assure yourself, that it is the truth and vigour of my Conscience that hath compelled me, to adventure upon this declarative discourse: a conscientious feare of the worst, is a strong motive to an honest heart: *Nam a vestra conscientia non oportet quinquam, in omni vita sua transversum uaguem discedere.* And forasmuch as in this whole Treatise, I have sincerely endeavoured to make truth my Center, and Loyaltie and Faithfullnesse my circumference,

I am strenuously induced to believe, that in your Majesties judicious and exquisite eye, and in the secret Cabinet of your rare and choycest intellectualls, my Errors will be accounted more venial, than those of others, that have so long been instrumental to obstruct the course of Truth and Justice, and yet in the conjectural opinion or judgement of many of your loyal and learned Subjects, do still endeavour, or seem to hinder the progresse thereof: *Aliena peccata approbare peccatum est, negligentia tacere: & in qua parte possit homo proficere, si innocentiam probatus fuerit amisisse:* and it is the saying of Solomon, *he that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are an abomination to the Lord:* for it is not good to accept the Person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgement: and if frail men forgetting their Duty shall attempt to act any such injustice, it will not be long available to them, or their Adherents, but their Purposes and Projects will fall in the Dust; for the Psalmist tells us, *that the Lord executeth Righteousnesse and Judgement for all them that are oppressed with wrong; and the Lord helpeth them to right that suffer wrong:* and who then are they that dare to contest against their Creatour? for the Prayer of the humble pierceth the clouds, and till it come nigh he will not be comforted: and will not depart till the most high shall behold to judge righteously, and execute Judgement; and when men will not believe that God is of perfect power, then he sheweth his strength, and amongst them that know it, he maketh their Boldnesse manifest: for indeed Truth is never ashamed to shew her face, it is against her nature to be hidden, or kept from the light, *Non amat veritas angulos, non ei diversoria placent;* but she is ever at home constant, and ready to utter forth her self, to such as seek unto her, or will lend an eare to her wise counsells: the integrity of Truth, is armed with such confidence, as it dares speak, and fears no reproof; for the Divine saith, *chat Nullus reprehensor formidandum est amatori veritatis. Et ille veritatis defensor esse debet, qui cum relictus sit, loqui non moritur; nec erubescit:* and the Humanist could say, *Liet veritas in causa nullum patronum aut defensorem obtineat, tamen per se ipsum defenditur. Nam magna est vis veritatis qua contra omnium ingenia, caliditatem, solertiam contraque filias omnium insi-*

A Supplicatorie Discourse to His Majesty.

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diu, se facile per seipsum defendit. The contemplation of these things (if it please your Majesty) together with the strong operation of my Conscience, doth still enforce me thus to expose my weaknesse to your Sacred censure, but I confesse my Heart doth somewhat tremble, *Ne quid indecorum sermo meus resonet* : and it would afflicke me much, if my error and imbecility should be the least occasion to infringe or disparage the truth of that antient Adage, *Much experience is the Crown of old men*, and yet I am sure, that the fear of God is their Glory: and in regard of that, I trust that I shall alwayes be as fearfull to offend as any man: It is said that *Audaces fortuna iuvat*, but I desire that Truth & Modesty may be my ushers into Favour, and good Fortune (if any attends me.) I have likewise learned, that *Sicut vitrecundia laudabilis est in malo, ita reprehensibilis est in bono: bonum verò erubescere insipientis est.* And therefore I do not yet understand the reason, why any of your Majesties Loyal and knowing Subjects that have still adhered to the truth, by being the zealous and constant Assertors and Maintainers to their Power, of all those good and wholsome Lawes both Ecclesiastical and Temporal, that were in use and approbation in the time of your Majesties Royal and ever most blessed Father, and in your prudent and pacifical Grandfathers dayes; and have so deeply suffered for this their Fidelity, should now admit of the least blush, or be in any degree fearfull, in the just vindication and applause of those religious, just and beneficial Lawes; or be at all ashamed to shew their reluctancy, at the remissness of the true and due execution of the same. But your Majesty is wise as an Angel of God, and to your Divine discretion, your loyal Subjects will religiously submit themselves: and who is he that doth not much admire and praise the Lord of Heaven, for your Majesties most rare and never heard of Clemency, and Mercy, wherein most superlatively you seem to exceed, all the pious and potent Princes that ever lived before, or in your dayes: and whereby also beyond and above them all, you come nearest to that glorious attribute of your Creator, whose Power *in specie*, you represent here on earth amongst us, and whose mercy likewise is above all his works. Your Majesty well knowes that by Mercy and Truth Iniquity is purged,

A Supplicatorie Discourse to His Majestie.

and that *Mercy and Truth preserve the King*: and it is also not untruly said, *Quod imperium vi quod sit, atrocium esse videtur, quoniam illud quod politia adjungitur*. And yet as every good subject doth truly admire at your Majesties mercy, even so is he well assured, that your Majesty is truly and sufficiently instructed, that Policy which anticipates Religion, is too subtle to receive an approbation for good, before the purest eyes of the Almighty God of Truth; and this in all humility we likewise leave to your Majesties serious and religious contemplation. And I am confident that it is a most transcendent joy and gladness to all your Majesties true Subjects and Well-wishers, to find your Judgement, so surely settled, both for Doctrine and Discipline, in that truly reformed Religion so christianly professed, and so lawfully established without intermission by a trine of your late most eminent Ancestor; for the same is so well digested into nutriment, and hath made such a deep impression upon the hearts and consciences of most of the soberer sort, of this our Nation, as I believe that nothing but death it self can be able to expunge the prints thereof, and I am as it were in a kind of extasie, when my Fancy runs upon the conceit, or the imagination of those ineffable and redundant rejoycings, that the hearts of all honest and true bred Englishmen, are at this present possessed withall: when after so long bitter and rebellious Deviations, and so sordid prodigious and devilish Usurpations, they be now so happy to behold the Royal Tribe of Judah, so gloriously restored, and so triumphantly advanced to the Regal Rights, and most Illustrious Throne, of their Royal Ancestors, there to reign and flourish again, in despite of Satan, and all his envious instruments. And when after so many miscellaneous absurdities, as have surreptitiously crept into the Church, by means of the horreur, confusion, and deformity of the late disturbances: We may now sensibly perceive the darknesse thereof, so sorely felt, to be dispelled, the glorious light of truth shining forth in a splendid measure: And seeing that Korah and his seditious company of Sectaries, are in a manner swal'owed up, or vanished into nothing, we may once again with comfortable Consciences and confident hearts, expect to see, and evidently to behold that sacred rod of *Aaron* to bud and blossome, and to bring forth

A Supplicatorie Discourse to His Majestie.

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forth fruit afresh in due season, which that it may the better be able to perform, with the more vigor and sincerity, I do humbly implore, that the sweet influence of the dewes of Heaven, and of your Majesties good countenance and protection, may continually and in abundant manner, be shoured and diversly distilled upon the holy consecrated body thereof, and the severall Members and Branches of the same; and that they may soberly and religiously concurre and agree in such an Uniformity both of Doctrine and Discipline, as shall most truly tend to the glory of God, the honour and contentment of your Majestie, the settling of a firm and constant Peace and Tranquility, both in Church and Commonwealth, the credit and glory of their Divine profession, the comfort and quiet of their Consciences, and the Eternal Salvation of their Souls and Bodies, which is the summary intent and end of all true Religion: Let us therefore remember the end and we shall not lightly do amisse; and if I mistake it not, when the Jews in old time were the alone select people of God, and his only true visible Church, there was a Law or Command given unto them, that they should not interweave Linnen with Woollen, nor sow any Miscellain upon their grounds; and surely there is a secret mystery in it, which I leave to more fit, grave, and wiser considerations then mine own. But a Learned Father saith, that *in Ecclesia unam vocem esse oportet*; and another tells us, *Tabernaculum Christi est Ecclesia*; and we read that Christ our Saviour his shelter or Coat, was without seame or division: Indeed Scismes and Controversies in the Church (especially in the Discipline or Government thereof, the very Basis of our Publick peace) do oftentimes prove to be of most dangerous and destructive consequence; it is well known who is *Seminator litium*; and therefore I trust that such as would seem to professe more purity and strictnesse in Religion, then some others, and that pretend to fear God so truly, and to detest the Devil so strongly, will in time learn to abhor and eschew the sinfull effects of those his so suble suggestions. It hath been observed, if it please Your Majestie, that the great splendor and eminent degree of Governours, doth ordinarily strike a more ample awe and reverence into the hearts of the common people, and makes them more tractable,

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ble, and submisſe, then they would be to others of a far inferior rank; in which respect, as your Subject most humbly under correction conceiveth, it is very requisite, and necessary, that the Episcopal Governours of the Church, (as well in point of policy as Religion) should be readmitted (as I trust they now are) to their full rights, power, and privileges, both in honour and patrimony: the Churches Livelihood, Revenue, or Patrimony, in good dayes was accounted to be Gods portion: and I have read that Lands at first were given to the Church with an heavy curse annexed and imposed upon all such as should afterwards endeavour to disannull and make void the gift, and so frustrate the good intent of the Donors thereof. And I do much fear that the antient and modern Sacrilege of some of this Nation, hath been none of the least finnes and occasions to draw down the wrath of God upon us. But now that, after so long and violent an intermission, the most of us have learned again to say that Lesson of truth it self, *De Caesaris Cesari*, let us not forget the latter part of the sentence, but give also unto God the things that are Gods. And if the once so glorious and full Moon of the Church, that hath so lately been obscured under the dismall clouds of Tyranny and Persecution, and now appears and moves in a serene Air, must still for any seeming sound reasons in Religion or State, be forced to suffer an Eclipse in any the least Degrees or Digits, (which I wish may never be) yet in the fear of God, and to avoid the foul aspersions of the present and future ages, let the same be never contrived, acted, or done, without the full, free, and legall consent of all such parties whatsoever, or at least the Major part of them, as by the Antient and Fundamental Laws of this Kingdom, in force and use before the embriion of these late distractions, were duly and legally interrested to give their voices of consent or denyall, in matters of that nature and consequence. And since it is certain, that the principall intent and end of all the grand and solemn Assemblies, tending to Counsell and advice, which are in a legall manner convoked in any Christian Kingdom, is or ought to be, above all other things, for the glory of God, and the due maintenance of his Church, and true Religion; which being taken *pro concessio*, it is paradoxical, and
much

much marvelled at by many, that such so worthy personages, are by common entendment are most versed, and best skilled in Transactions of that nature, and whose Reverend Learning, Wisdom, and Integrity, do likewise render them without scruple, sufficient to be Assistants and Advisers in other things, of far more trivial moment, should at any time, *pro ratione abscondita, & adhuc incognita*, be exempted from, or deprived of their just and genuine Rights, and antient Privileges, so deservedly conferred, and so legally granted unto them, or their Predecessors, by the Renowned, Pious, and Politick Kings of this Realm, ever since Christianity was in England, and never yet so much as spurned at, but in seditious and turbulent times, or be shut out of doors, when matters of so deep concernment both in Church and Commonwealth, were in agitation and disquisition: And if this Holy Order received the least scar or blemish in the time of his late Majesty, I do believe confidently that it was compulsive, and for some emergent reason of State, and not with his Majesties free consent. But prudent and moderate men, will ever have a greater regard to venerable Antiquity, then to the humorous conceits & novelties of some giddy heads; and I doubt there be some, that popularly were thrust on to act a part on the Theatre, that if they were truly sensible of their former failings, and duly penitent for their so grosse, erroneous, and dangerous Deviations, remorse of Conscience and Humility, would not then suffer them at all to be ashamed to give this character of themselves, *Hesterni sumus & Ignoramus, &c.* For it was the saying of an Antient Author, and also confirmed by Reverend Judges of great Honour and Antiquity in this Nation, *Qua præter consuetudinem & morem majorum fiunt neque, placent, neque velle videntur*: and I fear that the remembrance of this, and some other old Maxims, may be an occasion to some men, and those none of the least considerable understanding and judgement, to apprehend some doubts and jealousies concerning the conscience, though not the legality, of some of the very late proceedings. And yet your Graces true loyall and loving Subjects, do always desire to lye prostrate at the feet of your Majesties Clemency, and not in the least degree to oppose nor contradict (but only in this humble way of Animadver-

sion) any of your Counsels, truly tending to your Majesties honour, safety, and repose; neither can I much fear, but humbly hope that your Royal Prudence will not be offended at this my free, and yet most Supplicatory Expostulation, for it were happy if your Majesty did know the hearts of all your Subjects, so well as I do freely manifest mine own; and I dare affirm it, under favour, that it will be a great grief to most of the Judicious, Loyal, and Freeborn Subjects of this Realm, to behold the least overture towards the future infringement or violation (either in case Ecclesiastical or Temporal) of that Great Charter of the Liberties of *England*, so long since granted and obtained, after the sad adventures and deep dangers both of the Head, and whole Body of this Realm, and so oftentimes since confirmed by the full and free consent, and pious suffrages of so many most worthy Princes, and lawfull and questionlesse Parliaments. And as your Majesties ever loyal Subjects do much congratulate, and highly commend the good endeavours of all such, and do envie none of their present honours, as have late in any degree been instrumental towards the so happy just and royal access of your Majesty to your Crowne and Kingdom; so I beleeve it can never enter into any of their Imaginations, that your Majestie in your true justice and judgement, will ever in the least degree undervalue or neglect those that have at the first ventured their Lives, Estates, and Fortunes, for the keeping and preserving of your Majesties blessed Father, and his lawfull Heires and Successors (if it had so pleased God) in their just and Royall rights, without any alteration or diminution, for those were the true Subjects that strived to nip Rebellion in the bud. And if others after their so long & strong seductions, be now by the mercy of God returned to their due Allegiance, and have done any acceptable service to their King and Country, let them bleis and thank God for it, and not be elevated in their minds, as if they had done some strange work of supererogation, when alas all that they have performed, is but the ministring of an emplaister, to the sores of some of their own making; and what the exigencies and extremities of themselves and their Native country, did enforce them unto: and what was also commanded, and required at their hands by the Law of God, Nature and Nati-

ons, and by the municipal Lawes of their proper Countrie, which how obsolete they were become, and how grossly and perfidiously the same were wrested and abused, both in the letter and sense, by too many that impudently presumed to deal therein, both as Bar and Bench, for the venerable regard which I am bound to bear to the gravitie, and honour of that profession, I am most heartily sorrie, and much ashamed to remember. And if any have so far forgotten the discipline of their own Profession, as they be abashed to think of any return or retrospect thereunto: yet having now abandoned their uncivil courses, if they will turn so civil, as to cast an eye upon the first Paragraph of *Justinians law*, they shall see that, *Justitia est constans & perpetua voluntas, juxta suum cuique tribuendi*; whereby they may plainlie perceive, that whatsoever hath been transacted in or towards the restauration of your Majesties right, or the Countreys liberties, is but an act of justice, and then no men of integritie, will ever expect a bribe or reward for their well doing: But if by your Majesties roial beneficence any of them, do or shall still meet with honours, large benefits, or other advancements, yet in truth and equitie, they ought to esteem them all as meer acts of grace, and no otherwise. For a natural born subject is by Conscience, and Allegiance strictly bound to the service of his lawfull Sovereign, & when he hath done his deepest devoires in helping him to so rich a jewell as a Kingdom, that is his right, yet hath the Subject acted no more then his duty requirith: & if he should afterwards be denied a promised reward for his paines, yet in truth and equitie he ought not to repine thereat: and this in effect as I remember was the opinion of the learned Counsell of Conscience, to a mightie Monarch in Christendom upon a question propounded upon the like occasion. I doe insert this to preserve some from being betrayed by vain-glorie, and not to perswade your Majestie to be too parsimonious of your Favours, when desert requirith. *Honos enim alit artes, &c.* and although it be true, that *Virtus in se perfecta est, & nudo domine contenta*, yet I beleieve, that *Candor virtutis per munificentiam principis saepe nutritus est*. Constancie and confidence, are very requisite virtues in an eminent Prince, but as he is confident so he must also be cautious: *Qui autem non cavet, post debeat*: and I doubt

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not but that your Majestie hath cast your judicious eye upon some passages of the Historie concerning the life and successe of *Lewis* the IVth. King of *France*, which was for many years an Exile from his right, and that your Grace is also well read in those prudent and politick instructions, that *Charles* the Fifth and famous Emperour of *Germanie* did once give unto his dearly beloved Son *Philip* the 2^d. King of *Spain*. But a Prince that will truly prosper, must take God to be the *Alpha* and *Omega*, the first and the last, the beginning and ending of all his intentions, and actions: the word of Truth, is the best compasse, both in calme and tempest, that he can steere his course withall: and to utter the very thoughts of my heart, the most strange and miraculous Deliverances which your Grace hath received from the power and hand of Heaven, do sufficiently inform my belief, that you have truly taken that Word, for a light to your feet, and a lanthorn to your steps: And that God Almighty hath hitherto preserved, and raised up your most Royal Gracious and Sacred Majesty, and your Royal Heroick and Magnanimous Brother, that armipotent Duke of *Tork*, for some memorable adventures, and noble exploits to be performed on the earth, to all your High Renown, and to his own eternal glory. And, next to the Sacred Scripture of Gods own Penmen, I believe that your Majesty, without offence, may have an especial regard to the godly Writings, and pious Admonitions of your truly Religious, and Royal Father, of Glorious memory, the true and transcendent Charity of a Christian at the point of death, doth forgive all the World: and yet this doth not tye the hands of such as survive from the due performance of Justice, according to the Precepts of the Law of God, or Man: Justice and Judgement are of so Divine a nature, as they be called the Habitation of Gods Throne, and Mercy and Truth shall go before his Face: and when Mercy and Truth do meet together, then Righteousnesse and Peace will kisse each other, and I doubt not but that your Majesty is Divinely taught by the Spirit of God, how to establish your Throne in Righteousnesse: and *Solomon* again sayth, *that because Sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the hearts of the children of men are fully set in them to do evill.* And there be too many yet in this

this Kingdom, (with the grief of my Soul I speak it) that be but slenderly convinced of the foul Facts of their late most impious absurd & seditious errors: and it were lamentable if that saying, *Impunitas semper ad deteriora invitat*, should be verified in any of them: such as be truly humbled for their former offences, will hang down their heads, and obscure themselves, and not seek, and still strive to look up aloft, as if they forsooth had been ever free from all tincture of Treachery; a mist may be cast before the eyes of the Simple, but the eye of understanding will spy them out; for such a man as doth but endeavour to commend, connivance, or justifie, or but connive alone at any bad actions, does secretly seem to perswade the like, and so still promotes mischief; I wish that some had been indued with better Discretion, and more Modesty, and that yet for their own sakes they would call to remembrance this assertion of truth it self: *He that covereth his sinnes shall not prosper, but who so confesseth and forsaketh them shall find mercy: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief;* and God grant that so much mercy and favour as is shewed to some in this present world, be not an occasion to make them think too well of their wicked doings, so lately and unjustly acted, and so most happily hinder and prevent themselves of true repentance for the same, and consequently of the mercies of God, which they would seem so gladly to expect in the world to come. But as all your true and loving Subjects do desire rightly to rejoyce, in this their safe and salubrious swimming in the Ocean of your Majesties most rare and royal Clemencies, so I hope we shall incessantly pray to God for grace, to make a sanctified use thereof: and that all your Majesties so loving and royal favours towards any of us may really redound to your own proper safety and honor, and the Kingdoms happiness. And I doubt not but that your Sacred Majesty by degrees, will dive into all the several transactions, of these late distracted Nations: all Innovation is dangerous; and what is done without President, is in the same predicament: the beginnings of Evill are to be well looked unto, *Omnia principii*, sayth one; and there is a rule, *Qua malo incubata sunt Principio vix est ut bono peragantur exitu: Et quod ab initio non valet, traheu temporis non convalescet:*

convalescat: and therefore I trust that in time by the means of your Majesties wisdom, merit and moderation, the very prints and reliques of Rebellion, will by little and little be quite obliterated and expunged, and the Kingdome happily reduced to its pristine, pure, and genuine Government, and I hope that such as have formerly *ex Diametro* oppugned or opposed the royal Power and Government, and yet of late were so industrious, dexterous and active to restore the same again, have done this their good devoure, for mere Conscience-sake, and not for the enjoyment of Honours, Places, or Preferments, for any other mercenary, by, or sinister ends; and that all others that were by Law obnoxious to punishment, will now by your Majesties mercy and goodness be drawn into their right minds, and due allegiance, and so acknowledge their errors; and for their own good, and to escape damnation hereafter, be ready to return some honest amends and satisfaction where they have done evident wrongs; and be seriously ashamed of all their former faults. *Erubescere debemus & condemnare peccatum, non defendere, quoniam pudore culpa minuitur, defensione cumularur*; and bitter is the portion of Oppressors, and strange is the punishment to workers of Iniquity; and if ever there were barbarous injustice practised, and contempt of all truth and honestie countenanced, in any Nation upon the face of the earth, it was certainly amongst us: for here was none pinched to the quick, or persecuted to the proof, but such as utterly detested to suffer their fantasies and conversations to run mad, and be corrupted with the venome of Schisme and sedition: these were ever exposed to the most bitter extremities: *& qualis sit cujusque fides & constantia tribulatio probat*: Neither were any so much despised and convitiated as those of the roial and lolial stamp: but a good conscience was still our comfort, *Conscientiam malam laudantis preconium non sanat, nec bonam vulnerat convitium: Et si in illo quod de nobis dicitur, in nobis non invenitur, in magnam debemus letitiam proficere*. Such only as would willingly admit themselves to be Halophants, and quietly permit the weather-cock or Vane of their judgments, and expressions to be turned about, with the stormie blast of every *Euroclydon*, did esteem themselves in a secure condition, and manie of them did make a quick marker, by the means

means of their neighbours miseries; and although they had no Christian regard at all toward us, yet we in charitie did much pittie their dangerous, and desperate condition: for we had read, That the prosperity of fools shall destroy them, and that goods unjustly gotten shall not profit in the day of calamity, for the wrath of the Lord cometh forth suddenly, and in their scorn they shall be destroyed, and perish in the day of vengeance: and be that worketh mischief, or setteth a trap shall be taken therein, anguish shall consume such men before they die, for he that defraudeth his neighbour of his means is a man of blood, and he that taketh away his living doth kill him: *Et nunquam securus est reus animus, mens enim mala, conscientie propriis agitur stimulis.* And it was neither our own wants, or their abundance, that ever could incline us, to any approbation of their rude and rebellious actions; *fides enim nulla necessitate ad fallendum cogitur, nullo corrumpitur premio.* And as they did most unjustly deprive us of all our estates and subsistencies, so if the Lord for our sinnes had suffered them to take away our lives, I am confident that most of us, would have departed hence, with as brave and constant a courage as Captain Bizard that valiant Frenchman did, when the Duke of Burbon seeing him lie sore wounded, and at deaths doore, saith: That he was sorry for him, having known him to be so brave and valiant a Knight: Sir, answered the Captain, there is no pity of me, for I die an honest man, but you are to be lamented, that have fought against your King, your Countrey and your Oath. And although all of us I hope do desire most lovingly to embrace in the armes of our Charity, all such penitent offenders, as do manifest and shew forth the Fruits and effects of true Contrition and Repentance in their carriage and Conversations: yet I beleeve that we do still harbour and retain as odious and rigid a Resolution against all Treachery and Treason, as ever that noble man of Spain did expresse, when his Sovereign commanded him to lodge the said Duke of Burbon, at his house in Madrid. And I most humbly beseech your Majesty to be pleased to take notice that your poor Subject, was none of those Animals that were either *cæci*, or *non videntes*, at the time when those distractions did first begin, and so went blindly on with the mad Multitude in the dark, they knew not why, nor whither, untill by the influence of some propitious

Stare their eyes were opened, and so they recovered or obtained some imperfect sight of their former Follies : but is pleased God to form your Subject of such a temperature, as he could see to suffer from the beginning, and is like to continue still in a suffering Condition to his latter end, if your Majestie prove not a very good Lord and Master to me, and my Posterity : but my Loyalty did never live without hope, either for this present life, or my future interest in the World to come : and I have thought sometimes that my constellat-ion and *Genius* did argue something more then ordinary, because from my very Childhood ever since that I could well read, I have taken an especiall regard and notice of this Proverb, *My Son fear thou the Lord and the King, and meddle not with them that are seditious, or given to change,* and it had taken so deep an Impression upon my heart, as all the Rebels in England were never able to wipe out, unlesse they had pulled out hearts and all. *Quo semel est imbuta recens servabit odorem, iusta diu,* and I blesse my God, that it was so with me : Nam quod juveniute non discitur, in matura etate sapias nescitur, and this hath been lately too much verified by sad Experience. And when I first began to bend my mind to the studie of the Laws of this Kingdom, I did soon perceive in my self a greater proclivity and delight, in the apprehension and learning of such passages therein, as had reference to the true and right maintaining of the Royall Majestie of the head thereof, rather then to those that meerly concerned the body, and inferiour members of the same. Many have much marvelled that in the late so terrible times, I durst so freely utter my mind upon every occasion, and have often advised me to be more wary, but my answer was ever to this effect, That I did no more, then my duty required : and I thought not to suffer sin upon my Neighbour, but to reprove him for it : and if it were not the will of God, to protect me in mine innocency and integrity, I was sure that he would quite cast me off, if I turned an Hypocrite ; for there is an wise to the sinner that goeth two wayes : and the triumphing of the Wicked is short, and the joy of the Hypocrite but for a moment, they are exalted for a little while, but are gone and brought low : the light of the Wicked shall be put out and the spark of his Fire shall not shine : but who shall abide in Gods Tabernacle ?

cle.3 He that speaketh the Truth in his heart, and in whose spirit and lips there is no guile : and to them that rebuke the Wicked shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them : and since that, *propter timorem mortis tacere veritatem impietas est* ; how sollicitous every soul of us ought to be in the declaring and justifying of the truth , and in the performance of our best duties and endeavours, towards the fostering and furtherance of the same ; *Et bonarum rerum esse successum non fuerit, conatum tamen ipse honestus est* ; and a wise man sayth, refrain not to speak when there is occasion to do good, and hide not thy Wisdom in her beauty, for by Speech Wisdom shall be known, and Learning by the word of the Tongue, in no wise speak against the Truth, but be ashamed of the error of thine own ignorance; Strive for the Truth unto death, and the Lord shall fight for thee. *Et non solum proditor est veritatis, qui mendacium pro veritate loquitur, sed qui non libere pronuntiat veritatem, quam pronuntiare oportet: aut non libere defendit veritatem, quam defendere oportet. Nam qui veritatem occultat & qui prodit mendacium uterque reus est, ille quia prodesse non vult, ille quia nocere desiderat.* May it please your Sacred Majesty, I have almost learned Divinity and Philosophy enough to contemn the World, and am but very little ambitious of Preterment, and yet I confesse, that I would willingly imply my poor Talent, and the small remainder of my dayes, to Gods glory, your Majesties honour and service, and the good of my native Country ; and most gladly would I find out a way how to refresh my poor Family, that for so many years together, by the malice of the Times , and in the very despite of my Loyaltie, have been exposed to so much hardship, and danger of utter ruine and destruction : yet I am ashamed to beg so mean a Place as my weak deserts do seem to require ; *It is not for Kings to give Trifles, said a Noble Prince, but to give royally like themselves.* In which respect I think it is the best policy for such Suitors, to submit wholly to their Sovereigns goodnesse : Your Grace in my conceit, may well challenge a double Title, to be called the most Christian King, and in that regard also, your Majesty may very fitly be esteemed to be , the prime Deputy of God Almighty upon the face of the earth ; and we know that in the pure eyes of his heavenly Majesty , then a true and faithfull heart there can nothing in the world be more acceptable : and therefore your

poor Subject, having no other gratitude at the present, doth most humbly presume to present, and offer to your Sacred Majesty the true sacrifice of a loyal and loving Heart, not fearing to find the fruitfull successe thereof, knowing that your royal and religious Majesty will adhere unto, and stickle to be of the same mercifull minde with your Almighty Creator, *Et ille apud Deum plus habet loci, qui plus attulit non argenti, sed fidei*; and if your Majesty will vouchsafe, and please to look upon me, I dare promise, that by Gods grace, my works and actions in the time of prosperity, shall be as full of Faithfullness and Loyaltie, as ever my works were in the time of my adversitie: *Tunc enim veraciter fideles sumus si quod verbis promittimus operibus complemuss*; and let the World think or say what it please, I do protest, that I propound these things, not so much for mine own interest and advantage, as for your Majesties sake, and for the deep imprinting and high advancement of Truth and Loyaltie, and the memorie thereof in the hearts of the People; for although I do freely acknowledge mine own defection, coming far short of my duty towards his late Majesty, and your Royal Self; yet my Conscience doth urge me to tell your Majestie plainly, that my Loyaltie and Sufferings are so remarkable, as if I should chance unhappily to be neglected, and quite forgotten, the consequence thereof would be so bad, that Truth and Loyaltie would be esteemed but at a very low rate in our Country, & be made a meer *Ludibrium* amongst many, in that factious, seditious, & schismatical corner, where it hath pleased God to lay out my residence. I most humbly beg your Majesties gracious pardon, for these my bold expressions, and I hope I shall have it; for I desired never to rest or walk upon hollow and deceitfull Quagmires, but upon reasonable, sound, & justifiable Grounds; and I have no other certain way, or manner of means, how to make my Self or my Case truly and effectually known to your Majesty, but only thus: and I now do cry to your Grace, in the words of the Psalmist to his God, *The dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty, but, O let not the oppressed return ashamed.* The beloved Sonne of Jacob by the despite and envy of his Brethren was sold into *Ægypt* for a Bondslave, where he lived in long obscurity, and endured much pain
and

and penury, untill his Case was known, and the word of the Lord had tryed him; but then the King delivered him, the Prince of the People let him go free: and after all his sorrows and sufferings his successe was admirable. I shall be heartily sorry, if in any Passage herein, I have given to any one the least occasion of a just offence, but if your Majesty please to remember some Considerations written upon the life and services of an eminent Statesman and Counsellour to Henry the Great, your Royal Grandfather of *France*, your Grace will there find, that the Offences of Tongues, Pens, and Impressions, above all others, may be dissembled and winked at; and therefore I trust that the sayings and writings of such as intend no hurt, but are void of impudency, and seek only to illustrate the Truth, shall receive a milde and gentle interpretation. And thus with my humble and hearty Prayers to God Almighty, for the true felicity of your Sacred Majesty, and all your Royal Relations, I most humbly submit my Self, and all that is mine, to your Majesties mercy, and most favourable censure, and clemency, craving leave to proceed on in the relation of my services and sufferings, where, for method and order sake, I must begin with my Adresse and Declaration intended to his late Majesty of ever blessed memory; which had been presented unto him, if I had met with the happinesse of an accessse to his Grace.



TO THE
Kings Most Excellent
MAJESTIE.

Written
in the
year, &c.
1643.

The humble Declaration of Your Majesties Loyal and Obedient Subject J. W. of L. in the County of Ess. Counsellour at Law; briefly shewing his Troubles, and the true occasion thereof in these Times of Rebellion.

May it please your Majesty,

AS I am in duty bound in the first place, to render most hearty thanks to God Almighty, for his great goodnesse towards your Majesty, in blessing and preserving you and yours so graciously in these wofull dayes of distraction: So I cannot but esteem it a great mercy of God, and a most infallible signe of his favour towards me your poor Subject, that he hath alwaies given me a heart, so constant and loyal towards your Sacred Majesty, as I may boldly say, that neither my hand, or tongue, or thought hath agreed to any thing conducible to the beginning, or fostering of this most unnatural Rebellion; For when your Majesty sent forth Writs for the summoning of this late Parliament, your Subject dwelling upon the Confiner of Suff. and hearing what indirect

direct and unlawfull means was used in the election of the Knights there, (Ignorance and Affectation ambitiously striving to be the principal Electors) did begin suddenly to smell a favour of some worse intentions; and thereupon when some of his Neighbours requested his company to *Chelmsford* in *Essex*, to give a voyce to the electing of the Knights of the Shire there; your Subject made this Answer, *That he would not stir a foot upon that occasion, because he verily believed that the Parliament would never come to good.* It was a rash Speech, I confesse, but I have thought since, that surely I spake it by some Prophetical inspiration; and God knows, I have many times wished, that I had not guessed so right. And afterwards when your Majesty had granted to an Act, that the Parliament should not be dissolved, without the consent of both Houses, your Subject soon after being at a Publick meeting in the Town where he lived, where was then present one that was a Justice of the Peace, and a Lawyer, who told it your Subject for good News. *That your Majesty had condescended to such an Act, and that now the Parliament would go on very confidently without any obstacles or fears:* Your Subject made him hereupon this subitain Answer, *That indeed if your Majesty had granted to such an Act, it might possibly conduce to some good end: if it pleased God to give to the Parliament the Spirit of Grace and Wisdom, that they went on in a legal and moderate way: but if they digressed from that method, it might then be a means to introduce great Inconveniences and Distractions; for that your Majesty would perhaps depart from them, and so their Expectations would be frustrated: For we that have read the Law (said I) do know, that both Houses of Parliament, cannot make, nor alter Lawes, without the Kings Royal assent. Yes (quoth he) they will make Ordinances.* Whereat your Subject smiling, did again smell some dangerous Project to be in agitation, and believed the said Party was one of their Fraternity, and that he had sure intelligence of their indirect intentions of proceeding. In which your Subject was likewise a remarkable Presager of the event of things; for the said Party is since proved one of those good instruments, called a Committeemen. And in the year 1642. your Subject being come down from *Easter Term*, hapned in *Whitsun-week* after to be at a Meeting in his Parish, where the said Justice of



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year, &c.
1643.

The humble Declaration of Your Majesties Loyal and Obedient Subject J. W. of L. in the County of Ess. Counsellour at Law; briefly shewing his Troubles, and the true occasion thereof in these Times of Rebellion.

May it please your Majesty,

AS I am in duty bound in the first place, to render most hearty thanks to God Almighty, for his great goodnesse towards your Majesty, in blessing and preserving you and yours so graciously in these wofull dayes of distraction: So I cannot but esteem it a great mercy of God, and a most infallible signe of his favour towards me your poor Subject, that he hath alwaies given me a heart, so constant and loyal towards your Sacred Majesty, as I may boldly say, that neither my hand, or tongue, or thought hath agreed to any thing conducible to the beginning, or fostering of this most unnatural Rebellion; For when your Majesty sent forth Writs for the summoning of this late Parliament, your Subject dwelling upon the Confines of Suff. and hearing what indirect

direct and unlawfull means was used in the election of the Knights there, (Ignorance and Affectation ambitiously striving to be the principal Electors) did begin suddenly to smell a savour of some worse intentions; and thereupon when some of his Neighbours requested his company to *Chelmsford* in *Essex*, to give a voyce to the electing of the Knights of the Shire there; your Subject made this Answer, *That he would not stir a foot upon that occasion, because he verily believed that the Parliament would never come to good.* It was a rash Speech, I confesse, but I have thought since, that surely I spake it by some Prophetical inspiration; and God knows, I have many times wished, that I had not guessed so right. And afterwards when your Majesty had granted to an Act, that the Parliament should not be dissolved, without the consent of both Houses, your Subject soon after being at a Publick meeting in the Town where he lived, where was then present one that was a Justice of the Peace, and a Lawyer, who told it your Subject for good News. *That your Majesty had condescended to such an Act, and that now the Parliament would go on very confidently without any obstacles or fears:* Your Subject made him hereupon this subitain Answer, *That indeed if your Majesty had granted to such an Act, it might possibly conduce to some good end: if it pleased God to give to the Parliament the Spirit of Grace and Wisdom, that they went on in a legal and moderate way: but if they digressed from that method, it might then be a means to introduce great Inconveniencies and Distractions; for that your Majesty would perhaps depart from them, and so their Expectations would be frustrated:* For we that have read the Law (said I) do know, that both Houses of Parliament, cannot make, nor alter Lawes, without the Kings Royal assent. Yes (quoth he) they will make Ordinances. Whereat your Subject smiling, did again smell some dangerous Project to be in agitation, and believed the said Party was one of their Fraternity, and that he had sure intelligence of their indirect intentions of proceeding. In which your Subject was likewise a remarkable Presager of the event of things; for the said Party is since proved one of those good instruments, called a Committeeman. And in the year 1642. your Subject being come down from Easter Term, hapned in Whitsun-week after to be at a Meeting in his Parish, where the said Justice of

Peace was present, and all the Chief Inhabitants thereof, and much inquiring there was of Newes, concerning the setting of the Militia; and your Subject told them, *That he had heard of your Majesties Proclamation touching the same, but had not yet seen it.* To which one of the Company made answer, *That he was at London the last week, and had both seen the Proclamation, and also an Ordinance of Parliament to the contrary; and that he had them both there to shew.* Whereupon the Party pulling them forth, your Subject took them and read them before the whole Assembly, with an audible voyce; then they asked your Subject what he thought thereof, and what he intended to do therein. To which your Subject, remembering his natural and legal Allegiance to your Sacred Majesty, boldly answered, *That he was soon resolved what course to take in that business, without any study; for that he would by no means disobey your Majesties Proclamation, in submitting his Arms to the Parliaments devotion: and besides, informed them all openly, That by the Common and Statute Lawes of this Kingdom, it was High Treason to levy Armes against the King.* Which assertion of the Truth they little esteemed; but affirmed notwithstanding, that they would all lend their Armes, and that it would fall heavy upon your Subject, if he refused to do the like. But your Subject knowing a good Conscience in Adversity, to be more pleasant, than a treacherous heart in Prosperity, little regarding their Judgements, but resolved, if the will of God were so, to suffer rather for well doing, than for evil doing. And though your Subject thinks himself unworthy to take in hand the legal defence of your Majesties Right, yet when he heard their irreligious, and undutifull Discourse, tending to the slighting and undervaluing of your Majesties Proclamation, and the applauding only of the Parliaments Design; your Subject was so jealous of your Majesties Just Royalties, Prerogatives, and Reputation, that he freely reprehended their folly, and told them they were too confident in their conceits, That the Parliament were many of them but weak men, and might fall into grosse errors: That it was not to be imagined, that all the wisdom in the Kingdome, was now ingrossed to the House of Commons; for it was able to afford many thousand Assemblies as wise as they: That Truth onely must be the square of Christian mens actions,

ons, and not the fantastical and factious opinions of men: and among other Passages also said unto them, That they protested themselves to be haters of Idolatry, and yet it appeared they were much infected with Superstition, a grand limme thereof; for they had as Reverend a conceit of their Parliament, as the Papists have of the Pope, which is, that he cannot possibly erre in his Function.

Within a few dayes after came Warrants to Town, to command all our Armes compleat, to beat *Colchester* the next morning. The Constable came presently to warn me, to send my Armes accordingly. I asked him to see his Warrant, which he shewed me; and when I had read it, I told him, That he knew my mind already, for I had declared it sufficiently at the last Town meeting. He confessed, that I had so done, yet he must come to do his Office. Then I asked him, If his Authority concerning this matter were derived from under your Majesties Great Seal. He answered, No, it was from the Parliament. Then I asked him whose Constable he was. He replied, That I was a merry Gentleman to ask him such a Question, and that I my self knew better than he whose Constable he was, and what belonged to his Office. I answered him, That indeed I have thought I had known something, but now the Lawes are so strangely refin'd, that my Learning is almost out of date: But I prethee, said I, tell me in good earnest whose Constable thou art? He answered, The Kings. Then quoth I to him, Thou art a very Foole; for the word of God sayth, *His Servants ye are to whom ye obey*; and therefore you having no Authority from the King, but doing the contrary to his Royal command, are surely the Parliaments Constable, and none of the Kings: Whereat his Constableship was at a Nonplus. Then I told him, that I intended to certifie to the Captain, the Reasons under my hand, why I refused to send my Armes: That if I offended the Law therein, they should then have my own hand-writing for a Witness against me. The next morning I wrote to the Captain to this effect, That such a Warrant had been shewen unto me, but withall, that I had formerly seen your Majesties Proclamation, and further intimated, that I should be heartily sorry to infringe the Allegiance I owed to my Sovereign, or to give

give a just occasion of offence to others that were in subordinate power : but I remembered that long since I had taken the Oath of Allegiance, and therefore (were it but in that regard) how I could dispence with my self in Disobeying His Majesties Royal Proclamation I did not yet well understand, but my Armes and Bodie were ever ready to defend his Majesties Royal Person and Honour. This Letter was delivered him in the open Field amongst the Trained bands, where were present divers Parliament men, which I dare say had a sight of it : but I heard little thereof; only the next week I going to *London*, Newes was brought home, that so soon as I came at my Chamber, I was apprehended, by Order from the Parliament, and laid in Prison, and should be fined as much as my Estate was worth; onely because I refused to lend my Armes at the last Traineing : But it was but a false Fire to terrifie my Wife and Children, and to affright others from their duty and allegiance. Then at my return home, the Parson of the Parish told me, That he heard I was like to fall into trouble, and that he was sorry I had not done as my Neighbours did : I answered him, That I was not sorry at all, for I had done as my Conscience, and the Law directed me : But, quoth he, there will come danger of it : Gods will be done, said I, for I am resolved to be constant, and never to turn Rebel, for I shall ever account it an honour to suffer in my Princes Quarrell; and would fain see the face of that man, that durst call me in Question for shewing my true allegiance to my Sovereign. Afterwards I was threatned to have my house pulled down, and all my goods taken away by Risers, who said they had an Order so to do, because I would lend no money to the Parliament. Soon after I went upon occasion to the house of a Parliament man, none of the meanest rank, and he asked me, What was the reason that I was threatned to be rifled ? I told him, Because I would lend no money to the Parliament ; Then belike, quoth he, you lent none ? No, said I, for I have no monneys to lend ; but had I never so much, yet I think I am able to make it appear to you, or any man that is of an impartial Judgement, why I ought not to lend money to such a design ; but now a dayes, said I, men must not speak the truth, what they think : whereat

Sr. Robert
Crane,
Knight
and Bar-
onet.

whereat he clapped his hand upon his breast, and said thus, Before God I dare not speak what I think my self. After, he asked What means was used to procure money in our Country? I told him, The Ministers perswaded much; but, said I, every thing that Parsons now speak in the Pulpit, doth not work upon honest mens Consciences, that smell of Loyalty and Discretion. After this I was too often troubled with their Warrants, either about lending of moneys, sending of Armes, or their nugatory politick Association, still roaring in my ears with an Ordinance of Parliament; and still I told them, That these doings at length would make the Ordinance roar in the Field. And I thank God I was so far from obeying any of their Warrants, that I still gave them this answer, That by Gods grace I would never do my self or posterity that wrong, to live or dye a Rebells; and that all their projects would surely come to nought, and tend to nothing but mischief in the end; ever Harping upon this string, That it was without all question High Treason to levy Armes against the King, &c. and sundry times I have laboured to convince them by Gods word, and also read to them the Statutes and other Reports of the Law, and Histories, which I did think most fit to rectifie their Judgements; and though it did them little good, yet I trust that therein I did discharge my Conscience and duty towards God and your Majestie. And soon after the Battle at *Edgehill*, when your Majesties Forces came towards *London*, the Constable of our Parish came late in an evening, and charged me to send away my Armes the next morning, with a months pay; I asked to see his Warrant, wherein it was specified, that we should send our Armes to oppose your Majesties Army; whereat I told him, That his Warrant was somewhat too plain, for there was no mention of Cavaliers or Malignants, but peremptorily his Majesties Army: Then quoth he, sure that word is mistaken; Yes, said I, you run too much upon mistakes, but you might have spared the labour of comming to me, for you know my mind well enough. But, quoth he, a man is not alwayes of one mind, 'tis not fitting he should: Yes, said I, if a man be an honest man it is not fitting he should turn Knave; and for my part I will never meddle in this Rebellion, for if I should, my Conscience would accuse

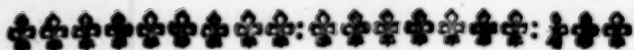
me for an arrant Traytor: But, said he, what Answer shall I make to the Deputy Lieutenants: Why, quoth I, you may tell them, that I have ever been a true Subject to my Prince, and so I am resolved to continue; and I will also be obedient to all subordinate powers under the King, so long as they hold their Allegiance to his Majestie. but if they waive their Obedience to the King, then must they give me leave to forsake them; for Armes or Money I will never send, to oppose his Majestie, or any that take his part, although I be chopt in pieces for it, and that is mine Answer. Not long after came another of the Constables to my house, with a Warrant to search all houses for Armour, which I perusing, said unto him, That his Warrant was generall, but I believed that my self was the only man in the Parish that he aimed at; Yet, said I, as the Case standeth, I am not bound by Law to obey this Warrant, neither will I: Nevertheless because I have heard that some idle people have reported, that I have great store of Armes in my house, therefore to take away those fears and jealousies from you, I will (though not in obedience to your Warrant, yet in point of Neighbourhood) let you see what Armes I have, and thereupon I carried him into every room in my house, and suffered him to search where he pleased, but nothing he could find to take any exceptions at, for indeed I had no Armour at all, but that I was formerly charged to find: Notwithstanding this Treacherous Villain went soon after to the pretended Lieutenants of the Shire, and certified them that I was a most dangerous man, and had Armes in my house for at least 20. men, and that if my Armes were not taken from me, I would be ready upon any occasion to do much mischief. Whereupon Order was given that a Trained band should be raised to disarm me; who soon after *Christmas* 1642. in a morning before day-light, beset my house, and the said Constable who was their conductor, when day appeared, knocked at my Gate, and asked to speak with me; And he was answered at a Window, that I was not up, and requested to come some other time; Yet he continued knocking, whereupon I arose, and went into my study opening against the Gate, and asked him what his will was? He told me that he was come again to search for Armes; Why so? said I, you

you have done that already; Ay but, quoth he, we have a Warrant to apprehend your body; Nay then, quoth I, take it if thou canst get it; With that a Parliament Captain that was hidden behind the Pales, shewed himself, and said, Sir open your doors, for we must have ye: Sir, quoth I, thou art like to tarry a while: Upon which denial, the Souldiers that were Ambuscadoed about the house, began to appear, and cryed, Give fire; whereat there rattled such a peal of Musquets against the house, as were alone enough to have converted a Coward to the Round Religion; whereat my little Boyes starting out of their beds to dresse themselves, the Bullets peircing into their Chambers, did beat the materials of the walls about their faces, insomuch that the Eldest, but 14. years of age, came running to me, and said, O Father they shoot Bullets, let us shoot at them again, although we die for it every one of us; But the Father had no considerable Force, to equal the Childs Valour, and therefore thought it no policy to provoke such obstinate hare-brained Rebels, and it was Gods great mercy that I was so patient, for they reported themselves afterwards, that if we had but shot off a Gun, we had been all killed, and the house pulled down. Again I went to the Window, and askt them what they intended? They presented their Musquets and Pistols at the very face of me, and charged me to open the doors: I replied, That if they had any Authority from the King, I would; They said, No, but they had order from the Parliament; To that, quoth I, I will not yield; Then they said they would break the house: I wished them to be advised, for my house was my Castle, and I was in the Kings peace, and if they did any more then Law would justifie, they must look one day to hear of it: Then as fast as they could they broke open all the doors, seized upon me, searched every Trunk and Chest in my house to find Plate, tumbled about my Bedding and Apparell, with their Musquets in their hands, and Matches light, took away all my Armour and Weapons, leaving me not so much as a Rapier, and forcibly carried me away, saying, that for ought they knew I might be charged with Treason; for these fots think every man a Traytor, that abhorreth to be so. As we rode along the Captain wished me to submit: I said that I had not offend-

ed the Law, and therefore would make no submission: For these riotous Rebels, said I, that have abused me and my house, have greater reason to make a submission then my self. When we came at the place where these Deputy Lieutenants were, much people was assembled on a Green before the house, to see what should become of this horrible Malignant; then issued they out to examine me, before the multitude, where it was laid to my charge, that I refused to send my Armes to the Trainings; 'Tis well known, said I, that I have ever been as sedulous to send them as any man, till now of late: But there is now most need, said they; I answered, That his Majesties Proclamation commanded the contrary, and when there is an Order for it under his Majesties Great Seal, then will I send my Armes, before I will not: Then was I charged for not contributing to the Parliament; I answered, That your Majestie had declared that none of his true Subjects should furnish the Parliament with Horse, Armes, or Money, and that I had rather offend all men living, then the King of England, or my own Conscience: Then it was urged, That I said I would march to the King; Why, said I, if my own house grow too hot for me, whither should I go for protection but to my Sovereign. But, quoth one, there be a great many of Rascalls with the King; Sir, said I, take heed what you say, for you call in question the best and wisest men in England, for I am sure they are with the King. Then one cried out, That I had said the then Earl of Essex was a Traytor: I replied, His Majestie had proclaimed him so, and as my Learning taught me, I doubted that he would hardly answer his doings. Then said one, that I had called the Ministers Pulpit-Knaves: I answered, that I did in my heart reverence all honest Divines, but such as now a daies came up to preach Sedition, and to abuse the King and his Liege people, I knew another place more fit for them then a Pulpit. Then said one in the crowd, You are in the way to Hell: But I having a better testimony within me, laughed at him, and said, I hoped better things: But, said I, (standing close by the Deputy Lieutenants, the Captain and Souldiers hemming me in) here is a brave Company about me, what do all these people intend to guard me thither? at which some could not refrain from laughing

laughing; and so the terrible Examination ended. Then the Gentlemen requested me in, and used me civilly, (though some of the Raicalls had much abused me) and after much discourse, they wished me whatsoever I thought, yet to be sparing of my Speech, for they saw my Neighbours were malicious, and so dismissed me. But I knowing my own resolutions, and thereupon dreading a worse mischief too soon to ensue, within a few daies after forsook my house, and have ever since lived a Lawyer itinerant, and yet I trust that I have observed the Law justly, and also used a very good Conscience, for now I am sure that I did not take a Fee for divers months after, but many times in my Travells, for speaking in your Majesties behalf, I have been soon after driven to take a thick Wood for a refuge. Since my departure they have taken away some of my Goods, sequestred my Rents, and seized my little Estate, so as my poor Wife and Children can hardly get any means to subsist withall, whilst I am an exile from them, beset with many Crosses, but hardly one Crosse of Silver to relieve me. As God hath given me a Loyal heart towards your Majestie, so I have often grieved, that I had not abilities equivalent to testifie the same; but I know your Grace will pardon involuntary neglects, since by my pen and tongue, which are a Lawyers best Weapons, I have endeavoured alwaies to do your Majestie the best service I could; and I doubt not but your Sacred Majestie will be graciously pleased to take these things into your Princely consideration, and to afford your loyal and true Subjects that have been thus unlawfully abused, a happy redresse in due time, for these intollerable wrongs and oppressions, which goodnesse of your Majestie towards us, shall for ever engage us (if possible) in a more reciprocal bond of Duty, Love, and Allegiance to your Majestie and yours, and so I heartily beseech Almighty God to preserve and blesse your Majestie, your Gracious Queen, and your most hopefull, Royal Issue and Alliance, with all prosperity in this life, and eternal happinesse by Christ Jesus in Heaven.

Amen.



To the High and most Renowned

MAJESTY

O F

Charles the II.

By the Grace of God most Mighty
and Famous King of *England, Scotland, France*
and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c.

*A Continuation, or Exact and very True Relation of
divers Passages concerning the Loyal Demeans and unjust
Sufferings of your Majesties true and faithfull Subject
John Wenlock of Langham in the County of Essex,
Counsellour at Law, in the former Declaration mentioned,
and the miserable distresses of his loving Wife, his Chil-
dren, and whole Family: occasioned by the Tyranny and
cruel Usurpation of the late most monstrous and unparal-
lell'd Rebels.*

May it please your sacred Majesty in your
royal Clemency, to take further notice, that
withina few dayes after, that the aforesaid
barbarous Injuries and unlawfull Violences
were put upon your said Subject in his
dwelling House, his apprehension and carrying away as a Pri-
soner, and return home again; the said pestiferous Con-

stable, formerly mentioned, being horribly vexed in his rebellious Stomack, because he could not obtain his malicious Will, and villanous Intention against your said Subject, which was to have him sent to some Gaol, or Ship at Sea, to be kept in hold as a Prisoner, during their pleasures, did therefore repair to a Justice of the Peace, a man in all probability, as well qualified then, and of as good discretion for that Office, as the other was to be a Constable, where he made a most untrue Complaint against your Subject, informing the said Justice, That he went in fear of his Life, and believed that your Subject would either kill him, or burn his Houses, and also offered to take his Corporal Oath to that effect. Whereupon the said Justice, in his grave indiscretion, very little, or not at all (as it seems) regarding the profession of the Law, or the Law it self, in the compass of Discretion; nor yet common Civilities to be expected and used amongst Gentlemen, would not vouchsafe to send for your said Subject in a gentile & neighborly way to confer with him, thereby to hear and observe what your Subject was able to alledge in his own defence, against the Complaints of such a paltry Fellow, but immediately suffered the said Party, without any further examination of the matter, to make a most false and wicked Oath against your said Subject, and thereupon granted a Warrant of the Peace against him, directed to the other Constable of *Langbam* aforesaid, peremptorily to apprehend your Majesties said Subject, and to bring his Body before him; And hereupon the said other Constable did forthwith repair unto your Subjects dwelling House, and there made relation of the occasion of his coming at that time. Whereupon your Subject did fairly request the said Constable to shew him his Warrant; which he presently delivered into your Subjects hand, who perusing the same over did inform the Constable, That he much marvelled, That the Justice would permit such an Oath to be made against him, before the matter were better examined on both Parties, and that he also understood what excusatory Arguments might be alledged on your Subjects behalf: For, said I, if the Justice had refused to take the Parties Oath for a while, untill the Cause had received a further examination, yet no danger or prejudice could have accrewed to the Justice, for his not accepting;

accepting the said Oath, unlesse that my self, against whom the Oath was tendered, had in the *interim* committed some violent and unlawfull Act against the Kings Majesties Peace, which a Magistrate methinks, in point of Charitie and discretion, should not very fearfully expect to be perpetrated by a Counsellour at Law that was not as yet voted, and declared to be *Non compos mentis*; but that odious name and censure of a Malignant, never so incongruoullie imposed, yet (as the violence of the stream did then run) must of necessity be a sufficient motive, and pretence to patronize all manner of Rigors and Incivillities. And further, your said Majesties Subject did then inform the Constable, that he had some good cause to believe, that the said Warrant was not intended against himself, because thereby it was commanded to bring the Body of Mr. *Wenlock* of *Langhem*, and said I, there be some others in the Town, that may well passe by that appellation; and therefore in regard, that the usual Addition that is commonly given unto me, in all Writings, is not inserted, neither my Christian name therein specified, I am not bound to take notice of such an ambiguous warrant, or to yield obedience thereunto; for certainly there is some grand misprision therein committed, either by the Justice of the Peace, or his Clerk, or else the Informer. Why Sir? quoth the Constable, without doubt you are the Man, that is intended by the Warrant. If you think so, said, I then neither my self, nor any of my Family shall make opposition against it: but if thou wilt provide me a Horse, and set me gently upon his back, and lead him by the bridle, then will I passe along with you without offering the least violence, but upon mine own free and voluntarie motion; I will not goe (for the Reasons aforesaid) untill thou dost bring a wiser Warrant. And hereupon his Reply was (as I remember) That he would not meddle with me upon such terms, and so departed. And yet, before that I had thus edoctinated his Intelligibles, he was so zealous for the Cause, (he knew not what) as he was very urgent to have me goe away with him to the Justice at that time, although it was then a deep snow, very bitter weather, and altogether unfit for travell, unlesse it had been upon a far more necessitous occasion. But within a day or two after, (if it please your Majesty) the former Constable

able which had taken the Oath, and procured the VVarrant against me, was about repairing towards my House, and perchance I espied him before he entered my Gate, and went out and met him, and fairly said unto him, Come on Neighbour, what News? or to that effect. VVhereupon he answered, that he was come to tell me, That my self was the verie man that he had made Oathe against. If it be so, said I, indeed I am sorry for thee, for thou art a vile VVretch, and knowest not what great wrong thou hast done unto thy self; for God he knows that I never intended thee any hurt, either in thy Person or Estate, for God be praised I have more Grace to rectifie my Conscience, and Conversation, and a better Knowledge and Judgement in the Laws of my native Countrey, than weakly to expose my self to shame and danger, by fouling my hands about such a Varlet, as thou art: but if the Lord spare my life, untill the Laws run in the right Channell, I shall then endeavour by the course of Justice, to right my self against thee, and such others of thy Tribe, as have so grossely abused me, and sought my disgrace, and imminent destruction: in the mean time I shall humbly crave at the hands of my most mercifull M^r, such a portion of Patience as may enable me with courage and constancie, to endure such crosses as his providential Wisdom shall think fit to afflict me withall, for his glorie, and mine own eternal good: and speaking unto him after this manner, or to the same substance in effect, me thought the Partie did look with a turbulent, and somewhat dejected countenance, as if his conscience did accuse him, and so turning his back like himself, he went his way: and to the best of my remembrance, I did never see him after; for it pleased God, that within a very few daies following he fell dangerously sick, in which time of his sicknes (as I was afterwards informed) he did oftentimes murmur and cry out, that he had wronged Mr. *Wenlock*; and I hope that the Lord did give him grace to repent, in some measure, for his sinfull errors in that behalf: but the sad event was, that the Partie lay miserably sick, and languishing, for the space of near a quarter of a year together, and so departed this life; when your Subject was many miles distant from home, and wandering about on foot, as privately as he could, to save and secure his libertie and life,

for the truth is, may it please your Majesty, that the malicious and false Oath taken against your Subject as aforesaid, was one of the first, and none of the least Motives, that induc'd him to depart from his Wife and Family. Which intollerable and most infest Injury offered to your Subject, being also seconded, and aggravated, by the bitter and barbarous expressions of some others of the seditious Rabble, reviling his young Children as they went in the Fields near his House, and asking them if the Cavalier their Father was not yet dispatched, together with the remissness and pittifull pusillanimity of the Magistrates thereabouts, who were as timorous to act according to Law and Justice, as the vulgar multifarious Monster was obnoxious, and prone at that time to all manner of mischief; did something abate, and almost terrifie your Subjects courage, and confidence, being loth to render himself a Sacrifice to the inhumane cruelty of Madnes, Ignorance and Rebellion; and likewise desirous (if it pleased God) to prolong his life, in hope to meet with some better opportunity of making a further manifestation of his true and faithfull Loyaltie to his Sovereign, and sincere love and affection to his native Country; and therefore he did think it none of the worst Policy, for himself to withdraw, a while from his Mansion house, that so he might not remain so continual an eye-sore to his zealous and hare-brain'd Antagonists, believing, that as his absence would extenuate his own danger, so it might possibly occasion some mitigation of their Malice: and hoping also, that their outrageous phrensie would prove but a Meteor and vanish sooner than a Nine daies wonder, or at least begin to waine, when that moon of madnesse was at the full; which Conjecture and imagination of mine, I do verily believe, would not have proved frustrate, had not the righteous God as a just punishment for all our sinnes, permitted that infernal Prince *Apolylon*, and his Chaplains in ordinary, mutually to be the banefull bellows and brands, both to blow and kindle the fatal fire of Sedition in the hearts and affections of that grossly ignorant, dis-ingenuous and inconstant multitude, and which unhappily made them to be so instrumental, not only to themselves, but also such real auxiliaries, to the long continue sad distractions, and ever to be lamented miseries, of
these

these late so wilfully distressed Nations. And in truth your Majesties Subject might have just cause to fear, that some or other of his Neighbours, so notoriously envious, might be drawn by some Diabolical instigation, to make an Oath against his Life, as well as his Libertie; for he had good reason to misdoubt the worse, in regard he was so palpably guiltie of such high Crimes as true intelligent legal Loyaltie, and just Integrity were then esteemed to be: and also because his place and station was under a Climate where the farr major part of the people, were so prodigiously zealous and fanatical: and where but very few of any note or qualitie thereabouts, had the happinesse or honour of a just occasion to be put into the Catalogue of Sufferers, with that eminently Loyal, and ever to Honoured Knight of St. Johns in Colchester, now the Right Honourable the Lord Lucas, and that most Noble and Loyal Baronet Sir Benjamin Ayliffe, and that worthy to be remembered, and discreet Knight, Sir Thomas Wiseman the Elder, deceased; and therefore your Majesties Subject well considering, that his so constant opposition, to the violent force and torrent of Rebellion, would every day more and more stir up the Romachs, and provoke, and sharpen the edge of his pernicious and inveterate Enemies, so cruelly bent against him; and that such also of his Neighbours as he esteemed to be his Friends, durst not make any manifestation or testimony thereof, for fear of being marked with the brand of Malignancy, and so in danger likewise to be exposed to the fury and madnesse of the multitude for his sake, and knowing for certainty, that his own Conscience in point of Religion, and his knowledge and judgement in the municipall Laws of his Country, would never permit him in the least tittle to alter his resolution, in the progresse of truth and Loyalty, did hereupon conceive and believe as aforesaid, that a private departure from his house for a time, would prove his best visible posture of defence. And so towards the latter end of the year 1642. your Subject with some reluctancy, God knows, did depart from his dwelling place, leaving his dear Wife, and small Children (as the fate and face of the Tyrannical times did then appear) in a Forrest or Wildernesse, amongst British and Barbarous animals, and yet with

a competent and sufficient estate, for their comfort supports and maintenance, in my absence, if their innocencies had not been injuriously deprived and violently robbed thereof, within a short time after my departure. And so it was if it please your Majesty, that the change of aire, did never breed the least change, or alteration in your subjects minde and affections, but wheresoever he came, and upon all occasions his discourse was still pathetical on your Majesties most glorious Fathers behalf, very freely reproving the crosse hallucinations, perversities and rebellion of the times; and vindicating his Majesties regall rights, and just and lawfull Prerogative, to the uttermost of his power; in so much as many times he found that he gave offence to some, and made others of a more honest condition, somewhat timorous to entertain him for fear of the Bugg-bear and his rambling ubiquitarie spirits, that then kept the bewitched Countrey in so much awe, for alas the most part of the people thereabouts, were so sottish, as to idolize meer shaddows, and yet fondly to neglect the Almighty God that made them, and ready to offend and grieve his good spirit, by their irreverent despising and horrible rebelling against his most perfect and specifical Image, that then was upon the face of the earth; which profane impiety your subject could not pass by, without ministring some reproof, although some that pretended to be his friends, did divers times tell him, that he did procure his own wrong, and prejudice thereby; yet your subject having a more assured regard and a more firme and vigilant eye, upon the future, then the present time, could not upon any occasion refrain in a Christian and moderate manner, to declare himself, and in despite of all opposition, still persisted in that religious and heroical resolution of loyalty, and the discharging of his own conscience before God and the World; and thus after many sore rubs, dangers and affronts your subject approached unto the village of *Dalham* in *Suffolk* the * Rector whereof being my kinsman, and one that I may well affirm to be a very loyal learned and orthodox Divine, did give me most free and noble entertainment; and where by the means of the great love and especiall regard both of himself, and his vertuous wife, expressed co-

* *Thomas
Dalham*
now Dr.
in Divi-
nity.

wards

wards me, being in that distressed condition, and whom in truth of nobleness, they esteemed as their Kings friend above their own kinsman, and together with the civil courtesies and generous respects of another noble Gentleman then Lord of that town; and others of his worthy family at *Dalbam* Hall, your subject did receive, and enjoy a comfortable rest and residence, for many weeks together, being linked in a pleasant and sweet society, with some royal bird of his own feather, and where quotidian and frequent discourses, did pass amongst us, concerning his late Sacred Majesty and his affairs at *Oxford*, whither your subjects said kinsman, intended suddenly to repair, and also offered to my self a friendly and fair means of conduction thither, which I did thankfully imbrace, and approve of, yet before I undertook so long and dangerous a journey, I was very solicitous to see my wife and children, and to take my leave of them, not knowing what bad success I might meet with (as the times then were) nor whether I should ever live to see them again, in this world, or not; after which resolution thus taken, without delay I began to march, and did beat upon the hoof homewards, (as I was driven to fetch my compass) I beleave above four miles at the least, but when I approached the territories of my own unhappy Countrey, that predest stage of rebellion, mine ears were sadly saluted and summoned, with the beating of drums, and thundring of guns, for indeed the most part of the people in that quarter, were so much holy mad that their most continual practice, and greatest endeavour was, to seek occasions, and prepare materials to macerate themselves, and to muster up the ruin and confusion of these once so happy, and late most flourishing nations: And further to trie my patience, when I came within a slight shot of mine own house, I was casually met withall and discovered by a man that dwelled in the same Town of *Dedbam*, where the rebels were then a training up themselves to work mischief, which party I durst not well trust, in regard that some of his neighbours, but a short time preceeding, had so barbarously endangered the lives of my self and my whole family, and so forcibly broke open my house, and stolen away my goods: which entering presently into my consideration,

ration, I thought it not safe to tarry at my own House, misdoubting that the Party would give notice of my being about home, and that so I might be lyable to a second surpris; for I knew well that the meer fury and madnesse of the multitude, was in truth as legal as any Warrant they could obtain against me, from such seditious Simpletons, as then pretended to be in lawfull Authority thereabouts; and therefore to eschew the present danger, within the space of an hour, as I remember, I departed from my House, and went to a poor Tenants of mine in a Village near adjacent, where in a little close room, I did anchorise my self for that day, and at Evening my Wife came unto me, there in the poor mans bed we lodged together for that night; in the Morning I soon prepared my self for my retraining foot march to *Dalham* again, whither my God in his mercy did safely conduct me, with a settled resolution to have gone to *Oxford* with my said Kinsman: but in the interim of my absence, which was not many daies, the aire there also did begin to overcast, & the Country to smell so strong of Rebels and Gunpowder, that my Kinsman being of a Sound stomach, and an honest Divine, that could not dissemble, knew not at all how to relish or digest such poysonous Vapours, as the infectious stinch of Rebellion, did daily cast forth and present before him, and therefore as an Antidote against further danger, and a Preservative for his health, liberty, and safety, he was enforced to change the aire, and so departing from his House, went immediately to *Oxford*, before that your Subject could make his return to *Dalham*. Notwithstanding whose absence, (that was the nearest to me in relation there,) yet I still found as much nobleness at that place, as might in reason or civility be expected; and therefore finding my self to be welcome, and well at ease, I continued there the longer, for indeed Journeys were not very pleasant unto me, in regard that I travelled for the most part on foot, which I commonly used to do at that time, because I did find that kind of passage, to be more free from suspicion, and danger, and also lesse chargeable to those, that were willing to give me a friendly entertainment. But my Fates were such as my quiet repose and felicity at *Dalham* aforesaid, must not admit of any long continuance there, for to the

the intent and end that I might be made truly sensible of my former sinnes, and present sufferings, and least I should be lulled asleep in security, or vainly puffed up with a false vision, and shadow of Prosperity, it pleased God, that a Messenger of Satan was sent to buffet me: and thus it happened: There lived in that Town a mean mechanical fellow, a Blacksmith by his Trade, that was a daily Workman and Reteyster to the Parsonage, where my chiefest abode then was; and this Partie was reported and taken to be a dangerous stubborn and rebellious Roundhead, and by some that well knew his Conditions, I was oftentimes advised to beware of him, and not to discourse or utter my minde in his hearing: But this Fellow, set on fire by the Devil, the first Father and cunning Contriver of all Rebellion, Malice, and Mischiefe, and a sworn Enemy to all Truth, had a fervent desire, (as the sequelle declared, to work me a Mischance) when he once understood me to be a constant Maintainer thereof; And yet he presented himself unto me in a more subtle specious and angelical Garbe and Posture, than others of his Brethren, of a far more cleanlier Profession, had done before him, for he ever endeavoured by fair words, and submisive Demeanour, to insinuate himself into my respect and favour, alwayes expressing more signes of Service towards me, then either I expected or desired at his hand; and sometimes when he did espy me walking alone in the Fields, he would repaire unto me with the pretence of much observancy, and an ardent desire to confer with mee telling me, that he had heard, and also perceived, that I was a man of much knowledge, and therefore he thought himself happy, when he had any opportunity of Discourse with me, whereby his Judgement might be the better informed in the truth of many things, concerning the troubles and divisions of these times, intreating me still to excuse his boldnesse of accessse unto me, and protesting that whatsoever his Opinion had formerly been, yet he had now a great desire and love to learn the truth: and also assuring me, that I need not misdoubt or fear to speak my minde unto him freely, for he would be faithfull unto me, and would never be an Instrument to procure to so honest and loving a Gentleman as I was, the least hurt or injury in the world: And after many such meetings and expressions,

pressions, your Majesties subject being of an open heart,
 and free from all deceit, did hope and imagine that
 such others as spake fairly, were of his own nature and
 disposition, and that their reall intentions, were corre-
 spondents to their verball expressions, and therefore he be-
 gan to believe, that this late so viperous a *Vulcan*, was
 now capable of conversion; and hereupon in truth of cha-
 rity, towards the poor seduced wretch, and to preserve his
 body from the hands of the hangman, and his soul from the
 danger of the devil; I did oftentimes very freely converse
 with him, alwayes endeavouring to evince, and rectifie his
 depraved judgement, to mollifie his minde, and by Scripture,
 law and reason, to convince him of his errors, and ever pre-
 senting to the view of his apprehension, that ugly monster
 of Rebellion, in as hideous and horrible a shape, as I was
 able to limne it out, or blaze forth the pedigree thereof, tel-
 ling him that the Devil was the first father of Rebellion, and
 that all others, that were infected with that witchcraft, were
 his own undoubted children, and the very proper souldiers
 that fought under the devils banner; and informing him at
 large of the loyalty of that holy Prophet *David*, towards his
 Sovereign, notwithstanding that he was his enemy, and
 sought his life, and was a man in some manner forsaken of
 God; and how benignly and mercifully the Lord likewise
 deals with *David* for his uprightness, and pious and just de-
 meanour in that behalf: and also relating unto him at
 sundry times many other passages, presidents and precepts out
 of holy Scripture, and several authentick Authors and Hi-
 stories, which did declare and make manifest the religious
 necessity, of the subjects true obedience, and loyalty to their
 lawfull Sovereign; and withall shewing him how great and
 honourable the rewards have been, that truth and loyalty
 hath received, both in antient and modern times: and how
 prodigiously fatal and fearfull, that desperate condition and
 period of rebels and traitors had ever been; and how odi-
 ous their memorie in all successions of ages: and such or to
 the same effect, was the most part of your subjects continual
 conference with *Bernard the Blacksmith*, for so was he cal-
 led, but he being then an instrument of hell, and so not ca-
 pable

pable of good Counsell, but one of those Fools that hated Instruction, and having the fire of Envy and Sedition kindled in his putrified Stomack, could not rest long in quiet, without the working of some manner of wickednesse; and therefore he went to the Committees, those rurall nutritious Instruments of Rebellion, and there he made his complaint against a Noble Gentleman then living in the Town, and that was your Subjects loving Friend, and antient acquaintance, whereat I was much molested and grieved, and therefore soon after, upon a Sunday at night when the said *BARNARD* came to the Parsonage, where I then was, I did begin somewhat sharply to expostulate the matter with him, and said that I was heartily sorry to see him still continue so turbulent and factious a fellow, as to run about with such triviall complaints, against honest and worthy Gentlemen, to whom he was so much beholding, and by whose means he had obtained his principall maintenance and livelihood, telling him, that if I had thought this grosse humours would still have fed upon the leaven of maliciousnesse and peevishnesse, I would never have uttered my mind unto him so freely as I had done, for I now believed that he would prove a kind of a *Judas* in the conclusion; But the greatest hurt and injury, said I, will ever redound upon thy self, for by such false and perfidious dealing, thou wilt draw the wrath of God upon thee and thine, and make thy self odious and abhorred of all honest men, or words to that effect: And he returning me crosse answers, I confesse I did bitterly reprove him for his seditious sawcinesse, the issue whereof was, that the next morning very early one of the Maid Servants in the house came running up into my Chamber in an extasie, and with tears in her eyes, ruefully told me that we were all undone, for *BARNARD* had raised the Town, and beset the house, and that he would presently carry me away Prisoner to *Cambridge*; and that her Mistis was in a most fearfull affright at the hearing thereof. Whereupon according to my usuall courage and confidence, I began to smile, and wished the Maid to pacifie her self, for I was not affraid of such Rascalls, but would suddenly rise, and come down amongst them, and perhaps give some allay to their fury; and so with all expedition I dressed my self, and came down into the Par-

sonage Hall, where the said *Barnard* then was, accompanied with such a rusticall rabble of meer animals, as his Impudence could command, or their own ignorance would permit, to dance after the mad Musick of his pernicious Pipe, and there at first casting mine eyes upon the tenebrous object of a *Black-smith*, I did thus encounter him: Ha, how now *Barnard*, what news this morning? to which he made answer, That I must go with him to *Cambridge* before the Committees; What must I go with thee, quoth I, upon what Authority? let me see thy Warrant: Whereunto his reply was, That he had no Warrant to shew me, but that himself was Authority and Warrant sufficient, for he could tell of his own knowledge, that I was a Malignant, and therefore it was lawfull enough for him to apprehend me, and also to carry me away without any further Order; and indeed, although the wicked wretch did not rightly understand what he said, yet I knew well, that his Authority was equivalent to the Committees, and as legall to an inch, (as the case then stood) yet I thought it no policy to acknowledge so much to him, least he should be too proud of his power, and so the more rude and violent against me; wherefore I still harped upon this string, That without some colour of lawfull Authority, I would not stir a foot; for I had then no business at *Cambridge*, and if a man of my Quality and Profession should submit himself to travel about the Country with such a Company of Idle fellows and upon so frivolous an occasion, without the command of a Warrant, it must needs redound much to the blemish of my judgement and reputation, and therefore I plainly told them, that I was resolved not to go along with them, unless it were upon other terms; and hereupon the vile *Vulcan*, believing that all his *Rebellious* retinue were ready at his command, did cry out to the Constable to do his Office, and to lay hold of me, for I was the Malignant and only man that he intended to take; And upon this I turned my self towards the party to whom he directed his Speech, as I perceived, and said unto him, Art thou a Constable? who answered, Yes Sir: Then quoth I, Friend I charge thee in the Kings Majesties name to see the peace kept, for I have done no man wrong, but was at quiet in my bed, untill this riotous

our Assembly did thus disturbe me; and therefore I counsell thee to be wary, and well advised, for if thy self, or any of thy Company here, do offer any violence to me, without a lawfull Warrant so to do, you were better bite off your nails, and leave scratching for ever; but certainly that which is done already will not be forgotten, when time shall serve, for I shall hazzard to make you all smart for it; And it is probable that this animosity of mine, and heroick manner of demeanour, did so much abash or pacifie the Peasants, as not one of them durst offer to lay hands upon me; But it was reported afterwards, that this *Barnard* had sent to *Cambridge* in Post-hast for a Warrant against me, that very morning, and that the intention of their comming so soon to the Parsonage, was but to protract time, and to stay me with wrangling discourse, untill the Messenger was returned with his tackling; and the truth is, I had been gone from thence within a few hours, if these unlucky Fellows had not thus Treacherously sought to prevent me, but as it happened they did but hasten my Journey, for the Gentlewoman of the house, being wonderfull solicitous that I might be delivered from the danger & torment of this *Vulcans* Hammer & Anvill, knowing that he and his Trayterous adherents might bruise me into pieces, but never could fashion me into any other form or shape, did quickly endeavour to prepare a passage for my departure, and escape from amongst them. And thus it was, she sent up to *Dalbam* Hall for some Gentlemen that were there, intreating them to come down presently to the Parsonage, which they did, and whilst that some of them were in hot dispute with this *Barnard*, and reproving him for his thus acting the part of an Impudent, and Trecherous wretch, the Gentlewoman did whisper in my ear, and told me, that she wished with all her heart, that I were out of their fingers, for quoth she, if they have once gotten you to *Cambridge*, God knows how cruelly the Villains there may deal with you, because you have alwayes spoken so much against their Treasons, and are known to be so stout and true a Subject to the King, and therefore she most earnestly advised me to get away if I could, and told me that her Maid should presently unlock a back-door out of the Parlour into the Garden, and a back-gate out of the

Garden into a back yard, and so I might soon escape into the fields: and accordingly this door and gate were quickly set open, and a sign given me thereof, that so I might take my fittest opportunitie: but I confesse it went much against the height of my stomach, to run away as it were from such Rascals; but the Gentlewomans importunitie, and the love of mine own libertie, did a little work upon me, and therefore when I did observe the whole company to be most busie, violent and full of discourse, I suddenly slipped into the parlour, as if I went to look for something, and without taking my leave of any body in the hall, or elsewhere in the house, I nimbly glided away thorough the garden into the back-yard, and so getting over a pale, I soon obtained the wide fields, where I made my march, as if I ran for a wager, and endeavoured to flie as swift as *Pegasus*, towards a great wood not far off, for like a subtil fox, when I had formerly rambled about the fields for my recreation, I well observed where the best covert was for my safeguard, if I should chance at any time to be hunted. I was got but a little way from the house, before I met with some that knew me well, because I had ordinarily frequented the Parish Church: I only intreated their silence, and made haste toward my desired port, and soon I attained the wood, and brushed into the thickest part thereof as near as I could, and being almost quite out of breath, I rested my panting limbs upon an old stub there, and first giving thanks to my God for my good deliverance, I then began to ruminate what course I were best to take for my safety, for I well knew that I must not dwell there long, although it was a muscical place, for indeed the Choristers of the wood, did sweetly chaunt their melodie to my solitude, but above all a *Robin-red-breast* was so courteous to court me so nearly, as I began to beleve that her pure innocencie, was ambitious of my company; but presently, to disturb the least of my comforts, I was alarum'd with the noise and hallow of the Hunters, that endeavoured to rowse their Game agrin; but I was lodged close and laid squat: and yet I beleve that if they had entred the Wood they might possibly have made a second surprize of me: but although that day immediately before was very clear, yet it pleased the providence of God upon the sudden, to send a most violent and raging shower of rain, which so soundly wet

the wood and timber trees, that it spoiled their sport, and I heard no more noise of them : and yet I continued a good while after in my harbour, for fear of some secret ambuscado; but at length I began to move, as soon as the shower was over, but the rain that had dropped upon me in the wood, together with my brushing amongst the trees and bushes to get out, did make me as grievously wet, as if I had been drenched over head and ears in a river, but in that pitifull case I was, yet I ventured out, and knew not well whither to bend my course, but soon I resolved my self for a Gentlemans house about a mile off, with whom I was acquainted since my being at *Dalbam* : and when I drew near the house, I quickly espied the Gentleman in his yard, looking upon a workman that was there at work, which partie dwelled in *Dalbam*, where I had met with my late surprisal, and before I came, had related to him the manner thereof, and so soon as the Gentleman did discover my approach, he came towards me with a smiling countenancer, and said he was sorry to see me in such a wet condition, but heartily glad that I had escaped out of mine Enemies hands, and intreated me to walk in ; I returned him thanks, but said unto him, That his house was no place for me, as the case stood, I must not tarry there : No, quoth he, but I wish you might tarry, if it were without danger, for it is to be feared that they will suspect this house, and therefore it is no policy to stay long, but you may venture to go in a while, and dry your cloaths against the fire, and take some refreshment ; and indeed his courteous offer came very seasonably, for besides the need which I had of a fire to dry me, I had taken no sustenance all the day before, by reason of my former disturbance. Well, in I went, and there a sweet & loving Gentlewoman his Sister, did presently prepare me the best repast that the house could afford, & whilst I was taking the same in hast, I desired the Gentleman to send out some spies, to discover whether the Coast were clear or not, for I did misdoubt that my Huneers might still be upon their chase, to smell me out. And withall I requested him to draw on a pair of Boots, that would fence water, for indeed mine own were sufficiently liquored, being as wet within as without : these things being soon dispatcht, out we went together on

the backside into the Fields: and then I told him whether I did intend to travel, and take my repose for that night ensuing, and the next Morning to depart out of the Country, but quoth I, the way to the house I know not, and loth I am to make inquiry about the way leading thereunto, least by that means I should be suspected, and so be discovered, and besides if the Gentleman himself be from home none of his Family doth know me, and then perchance I may misse of my entertainments, and so lie all night in the Feilds: Well, quoth he, let not that trouble you, for I will not leave you thus, but if it please God, I will see you safely arrived there, and I will warrant you wellcome, for the Gentlewomen is as Royal as her Husband, I was glad to hear of that, and most thankfully embraced his curtesie, and so very chearfully we marched along, the most private way thorough the standing Corn Fields, and long grasse, it being on *Midsummer day* and our Journey near five miles: yet in a short time with many a wet and weary step we arrived at the place we so much desired, where my Comrade and my self boldly entring, we soon understood that the Gentleman of the house was not at home, but the Party we first saw there did conduct us into the Parlour, where the Gentlewomen the Mistris of the House, did soon after appear and gave us a very kind wellcome, and instantly in a few words, I related my Condition unto her, and what a Danger I had escaped that day: she rejoiced greatly at it, and said that she was heartily glad of my safe Arrivall there, for she had heard much of me, but was never before so happy as to see me, and casting her eyes towards the Chimney, which was then adorned with Summer-like Ornaments, as green Boughs, green Rushes, and Flowers, she merrily said, Sir, though you be a stranger, yet I believe at this time you have more need of a good fire then of green Rushes, and forthwith she commanded her Servants to disrobe the chimney of all those Ornaments, and quickly to make a good fire, which together with a bottle of Sack and other good cates she presented us with, did much refresh us after our wet Journey, and there we both reposed our selves together for that night, and in the morning betimes my loving fellow Traveler departed, and went and certified my Friends, with whom

I had formerly been, how well I was got off, and how far I was onward on my Journey; and soon after that he was gone, I did arise my self, and took some good refreshing, and with much thankfulness to the house, I went away, and bent my course towards the other side of *Sussex*; and it was well that I made so much haste, for within an hour after that I was gone from thence, (as I was not long after informed) the bold *Black-smith* and his ragged Regiment were come to that Town, with an Hue and Cry to search after me, but they came a little too late, God be thanked. And yet further also, if it please your Majestie, about a year or two after, I did hear to my great comfort, that this *Black-smith* was become a convert, for whether he was convinced in his conscience, to see the gracious deliverance that God gave me out of his hands, and thereby was occasioned to consider the better of me, and the good Counsell I had given him, or whether he was utterly ashamed of the base Treachery that he had practis'd against me, true it is, that he removed from *Dalham* to another Town some 7, or 8 Miles off, and there fell quietly to his work, deserted the Rebellion, and never medled any more therein. Now I was upon another foot March, to find out new adventures, and glad to accept of the meanest entertainment I could meet withall, being enforced sometimes to lye in a Lowlie Ale-house; but in short time I did happily arrive at a Mansion place of good Hospitality, being the residence of two most Worthy * Ladies, the Mother and the Daughter, being both of them Widdows, and there I met with some Gentlemen that were in mine own predicament, whereby these Ladies Noble favour, and free entertainment, together with our own Royal discourse, we did much revigorate our spirits: And here we had Noble and Free Quarter, for a good time, and yet ever and anon we were Alarumd with those Trooping Spirits, that continually haunsted the Country both night and day; for here and at other places where I had formerly been, many times a Messenger would come to the house, and inform the Servants, that if any Gentlemen were there, that loved the King, it were best for them to look to themselves well, for there were Troopers at hand, and upon such warning given, my custome was still to walk out into the

*The Lady Jermy, and the Lady Waldegrave.

the Fields, and ruminat; and yet once at a place where I was, being above in a Chamber a reading, the house was filled with Troopers before I was aware of it, and I fearing that if they should search the house, and find me there shut up alone, they might suspect me, and take me for a prey, did come down confidently amongst them, and talked so boldly, and yet warlike, that the fellows not finding him they looked for, went very fairly away, and had not me in suspicion, for ought that I perceived. But now the goodnesse of these Ladies, was a main motive, to make me fearfull of being the least Instrument, to occasion them any trouble, and this I feared more then any danger, that could accrew to my self, wherefore I thought it not fit to tarry there too long at that time, least greater notice should be taken of me, then my private Condition was then ambitious of. And upon this consideration my self and a Divine of good note that was there with me, did soon withdraw our selves to an honest Gentlewomans, that lived very privately, where allowing something for our Diet, we lived like to Recluses, almost as Anchorites: but in a few weeks I was weary of that, and thought it better to live like a Prisoner in my Wifes Custody, then any where else: and therefore I drew towards home, yet not without some ill favoured affronts and dangers, too tedious here to relate. Well in the night time I went home, and there continued about 3. Months in a little Chamber, never going down, unlesse it were in the night, and then my Wife would not suffer me to go out neither, untill she had sent some discovering Scouts abroad before me, for indeed sometimes they had espied some good Instruments sculking about my Yards and Orchards, to try surely if they could hear any noise of me, and therefore I was driven to speak with a more submissive voice then I had formerly used, when I pleaded at the Barr, and yet alas I was not afraid of such Wretches at all, but very loth to be a means so encrease their condemnation, by their treacherous murdering of me, for otherwise I feared not the face of the proudest Rebell in England, had it been his Excellencie himself. But I was of a stirring Spirit, if it please your Majesty: & could not abide to be alwayes mued up, and therefore out I went again, so venture another voyage, and presented my self to some,

that

that I had good confidence in, and that were sufficiently able to have afforded me good comfort, but alas I did find their looks to be downward, and their courage cold, pretending much fear to entertain such as were in my condition, and this was most irksome to my *Genius*, to see people of quality more cautious of giving offence to the Devil, and his Instruments, then they were of shewing any fear towards God, or any love to their King and his Friends, and so this journey of mine producing but little effect, besides mine own grief, travel, and trouble, within a fortnight or thereabouts, I returned home again to mine old Cabine, and was then again in danger to have been discovered : for being near my house, it being late in the evening, I met in the High-way with a Cart, and 2, or 3. men therein, and one of them bad me Goodnights, and when they were a little past, I heard one of them say, sure this same was Mr. *Wenlock*, and another answered him, perhaps in good will to me, pish, no, it is not he, for he is quick enough of his tongue, but this man hath been at the Oven lately, meaning I think, that my tongue was baked, and so I could not speak at all ; but I knew them well enough by their speech, and smiling at it, I passed away in silence as whilst as a Mouse ; and then I continued at home, shut up in solitariness for the space of about sixteen weeks, untill the dead time of Winter, and then we had a new alarm, that a great number of Troopers were come into the Country very near us, and because no man thereabouts was in any danger then, but my self, therefore my poor Wife believed and was very fearfull that they came to catch or kill me, and said, that without doubt they would search the house, and if they found me there, perhaps destroy her, and her Children for my sake, or to that effect ; and therefore she did intreat me to depart for a time, and to shift for my self : To rid her therefore of these fears, about 4. of the clock in a cold morning, I did march out, going almost up to the knees in Snow, (a good medicine for an antient man, that had kept so long in a close Chamber, by a good fire) yet I went with a constant courage, to keep my Loyalty, and save my Life, and by the mercy of God this Voyage proved more fortunate then the former, for I now met with courteous accom-

modation where I came. And still my mind did run upon going to *Oxford*, yet oftentimes I was informed that the *New* books thundred out Sequestrations against the Estates of all such as were with his Majestie there, or should afterwards repair thither; and this I confesse gave an occasion to a strong combate in my soul, desirous I was to do his Majestie the best service I was able, and yet the bowells of compassion towards my Wife and Children, did make me loth to expose them to present ruine, and utter undoing; but ere long I understood, that my not repairing to *Oxford* would not preserve my Family from danger, unlesse I went presently home, and took the *Scotch Covenant*, paid Taxes, and gave my consent to such other Rebellions actions; but God in his mercy towards me, would not suffer my soul to be infected with the leaven of such Poysoned Treacheries, and hereupon I had news too soone, that my Lands and Goods were Sequestred, and my Wife and Children brought into a most distressed and lamentable condition; and now were our miseries almost at the full tide, for I was not able to relieve them, nor they to send me any help at all, upon the greatest need that could happen unto me; for the truth is, that the small Estate I had, was befallen me not much above 3. or 4. years before these troubles did begin, and the same having been in the hands of a Tenant for term of life, was in a manner forlorn, and in want of much reparation, which to rectifie and make decent for my turn, I had put my self to great costs, in respect whereof I was left very bare of Money at that time, and yet the pittifull pinch was, that I was driven to forsake my new dressed up Nest, before I was well warm therein; and for all this, my chiefest trust and confidence was still in the never failing mercies of my God, and because my case was lawfull and just, I was not affraid also to plead the same before men, that were my greatest Persecutors, and therefore I did write and send to the Committee of *Essex*, these lines following.

Gentlemen,

Although there be many mistakes in this unhappy Kingdom, yet can Charity be quite banish'd out of the hearts of Christians? and shall this Gentlewoman and her Children starve for my sake,
whose

whose offence, if it were any, is but a point of Conscience? that such hard measure hath been used to Innocents, and by such as pretend Justice, hath been seldom heard of: If I write passionately excuse me, for Solomon saith, That oppression maketh a wise man mad; but there is a time when the Lord will execute Judgement and Righteousness to all that are oppressed: For the Lord will arise and defend their Cause, and spoyle the souls of those that spoyle them. But if my Wife may not enjoy her Joynture, which is little enough to maintain her and her Children, then I desire that you would give her some Certificate, to send to me, whereby I may be enabled without apparent danger, to travell the Country, either to borrow or beg of Gentlemen, my acquaintance, some releif for them; this poor request of mine, I trust shall not be denied, and so I pray God to give us all grace to remember our latter ends, and last accounts.

But this Epistle could operate no effect upon the hearts and consciences of these kind of Christians, that were so soundly seasoned with the rage and malice of the first Rebell, and their true and undoubted Father the Devil, and therefore my self and poor Family, could not find the least pity at their hands: And most certain it is, if it please your Majestie, that by some secret instinct from Heaven, and the Observations that I have noted in my reading, I have had the hap in these times to fore-tell many events, that afterwards came to passe, according to my conceits and imagination; and I pray God that this Proverb, *Impunitas semper ad deteriora invitat*, as I have touched before, be not too truly verified in some of these men; for notwithstanding, that they have so evidently seen the most admirable mercy of God towards your Majestie and these Kingdoms, now so lately made manifest, by the most happy and peaceable conduction of your Majestie to your Royal Throne, and lawfull, and most just indubitable Right; and by the most miraculous preserving of your Princely Person, in the midst & labyrinth of such ineffable dangers, as scarce ever any Prince before your time was involved in; yet many of them are not yet sufficiently convinced in their Consciences, of the odious crime of their late Rebellion; neither be they truly humbled for their sins, nor stricken with a due remorse of conscience, for their prophane

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perjuries,

perjuries, and most bloody and horrible impieties, cruelties, and injustice by them committed; neither doth there as yet appear in them the least sparke of grace, to kindle their charity, and quicken them up to those good desires which Gods word, and the truth of Religion doth require at their hands, which is, to deal by others as they would be dealt withall themselves, and to make some amends and satisfaction, where they have committed an offence, and wrought an injury: But there is a Generation yet, that think they be in a very secure condition, and still look up aloft in place, who together with their perverse complices and adherents, do make as it were a meer mock of Loyalty, that is is not looked upon, nor such as have suffered in that behalf, and do slight and undervalue those whom they have for a long while, by their unjust power, pressed down, who notwithstanding if their merits were once truly known, have in reality of truth deserved far better credit and respect in the Kingdome, then any of themselves: And now that the Wind and Tide is so happily changed, this sort of people, howsoever they did formerly so much contemn, and to speak with reverence, even revile and villifie your Sacred Majestie, yet now with a false shadow, to serve their own turns, they seem so highly to honour, and superlatively to adore the same, as their carriage and demeanour doth demonstrate their belief to be, that your Majesties Generall Pardon, with an Act of Indempnity, will be available for them in another World, and pleadable at the High Tribunall, before the most Just and Almighty Judge both of Heaven and Earth, without any Repentance towards God, for their sin, or satisfaction to their Neighbours, whom they have so wickedly and villanously injured, and undone; and this will prove their most dolefull and deadly error in the conclusion. I beseech the Lord to humble their stouish stomachs, and to mollifie and open their hard stonie hearts, that they may yet understand those things that belong to their eternall peace. And still again in despite of all their Tyranny, your Subjects affection stood for *Oxford*, and I much entreated a Gentleman, whom I knew to have a Son in the Kings Army, to give me the best direction how I might in the safest manner get thither, for if I were taken by the way,

and

and bereaved of that little money which I had, and far remote from all my acquaintance, I might hazard to lie in a Gaol and be starved; and he certified me, that the Journey then was very difficult, but quoth he, I do know of a very good Guide, that knoweth all the shallow Fords in the Rivers, and the best wayes through the Woods, and private places, and if any man help you thither, that I know, it must be he, and when the party comes again into the Country, I will give you notice thereof, and not long after I received a message from this Gentleman, intimating unto me, that the party he told me of would very suddenly be thereabouts, and therefore he wished me to come over, for he believed that I might soon speak with him: I was at that time, as I remember, somewhat remote off, but with as much expedition as conveniently might be, I made repair to this Gentlemans house, where I then had newes, that my intended Guide was surprized, and taken prisoner, and so my sport was at a *non-plus* for that: and further to dishearten me, I had very sad tydings from Oxford, that my Wives most dear and loving brother, and one of the best friends I had, was there departed this life: and likewise within a while after, my eldest son then but a little youth came trotting alone, about the country to find me out, and to certifie me of the poor and distressed condition that his mother remained in, and thus *unda gignit undam*, for one miserie succeeded in the neck of another, and yet my comfort was, that God almighty was still the same, and continued in his full power, and to his mercie in the meries of the Lord Jesus Christ, I did still commend the sad condition of my poor Wife and children: indeed their case was much to be lamented, and the rather in regard that my wife was a Gentlewoman, well and tenderly brought up, and now in such extremity of want, as she must turn away all her servants, being not able to keep so much as a maid, to do the ordinary work about the house, but enforced to do all herself, and indeed far more then the weaknesse of her nature was able to passe thorough: for by the means of this her great labour and pains taking, she hath gotten such infirmities, as God he knowes she must of necessitie carry with her to the grave: and when she endeavoured to hire for wages

a poor woman to help her, at her greatest need, she could seldome get any, for some of the blind besotted wretches in the town, would still dissuade them from comming at her, and cry out, Why, what will you help a Malignant? you'll be soundly punished for't, or such like words: this was the charity of these deformeders, but I believe their religion they had not yet made choice of: Now was my Wife also thorough want compelled to keep her children from the School, that were prompt enough for learning, and this was to her, and to my self especially, who had tasted the fruits of knowledge, a tormenting grief, and to them a losse irreparable, she was also enforced, to sell away a great part of the household stuff, she had yet left her, at a mean rate, for money to buy her self and her poor children some bread: and in a short time her small stock being exhausted and spent, they were all so humbled and brought low, as they did almost forget their former condition of life, and what they had beene: and according to the manner of the poor people in that Countrie, and to preserve themselves from starving altogether, they were contented to learn to handle the Wheel and Cardes, such greasie Instruments, as they had never before in their lifes time, meddled with, and I have often much marvelled how they could ever sadge withall: but necessity had then no law to help it self, *Venter non habet aures*, for alas hunger is a sharp sawce: & thus by the Instruction and aid of an honest poor woman, that dwelled very near them, they did begin by this their unusual and hard labour, to earn something towards a poor living, and in this so mean and dejected an Estate, they did continue for a long time: and yet my Wife having still good Clothes to put on, would sometimes on the Sundaies trim up her self, and some of her Children, and go to the Parish Church: where one day as she drew near the same, instead of Christian and Neighbourly comforts, fit to be tendred to a Gentlewoman in her distress, there was a couple of the wise Townsmen, that met her upon the Church green, and told her, that they had order from the Committees, to warn her to depart out of her house: whereunto she answered, that the house was part of her jointure, and she would for no mans pleasure depart out of it, upon such terms, unlesse she were pulled

out by force, and hereupon one of them replied, that's well, and said to his Fellow, she will ere it be long, prove as bad a Malignant as her Husband : and most strange it is, if it please your Majesty, to consider and observe the more then barbarous baseness, that the Country thereabouts was then bewitched with, and that the cursed maintaining of a treacherous and rebellious faction, should make them so blind, as to bereave them of all sense of Religion, Reason, and Humanity : for true enough it is, that although my Wife had then lived with me in that Town and at *Chichester*, for the time of about twenty years before : and that envy it self could not alledge against her, but that she had ever approved her self to be a most harmlesse quiet, loving and kind Neighbour to all sorts of People whatsoever, and was likewise well known to be none of the meanest breed, being the daughter of an antient Esquire of good rank, who had served his Prince and Country in the place and office of a Justice of the Peace and *Quorum*, for the space of fifty years together, and one of the Masters of the high Court of *Chancery*, and also Sister unto a noble, learned and courtly accomplished Knight, who was his late Majesties Servant in Ordinary, and died at *Oxford* in the prime of his flourishing years, by whose means if these distractions had not happened, your Subject, his Wife and Children might well have reaped the benefit, of some thousands of pounds, as he is well able to make manifest : and yet neither the goodnesse and innocency of my Wife, nor the worth and quality of her Friends, would procure her the least respect, in this time of her dejection ; for there was neither Knight, Esquire, Gentleman, or others of any quality in all that Quarter, that would take any notice of her sad and helpless Condition, or vouchsafe so much as to look upon her in the way of affording her the least comfort or curtesie, in this time of her want, & great Extremity ; and this was enough to kill the heart of her, that formerly had the enjoyments of so many worthy Friends, and Allies with pleasure and plenty : and yet by the mercy of God she is still alive, and I should heartily rejoyce to live a while longer with her, if it shall so please God, that I may prove an Instrument to make her some amends, for these her great sufferings and afflictions ; and I hope that my Countrymen of all

sorts,

*Michael
Dalton,
Esq; and
Sir John
Dalton,
Knight.*

Corts, will in time be truly sensible of their errors and failings, and learn to know their duties towards God, their King, and their Neighbours, in remembring the good Example of *Zachew* in the Gospell : and I most heartily wish, that they were but so willing to acknowledge and be sorry for their follies, as I am ready to embrace them in the Armes of my Charity, for I have learned, that I must render good for evil, and I thank God I am so much a Christian, as I would much rejoyce, in doing a true curtesie for the worst enemy that ever I had ; for alas it was then a most lamentably besotted, and blindly zealous corner, and the symptomes of that Sicknes do still cleave so close to some of them, as they be scarce as yet *sane memoria* : besides I was then a notorious Malignant in their reputation, but *vulgaris reputatio non est veritas*, and their conceits alone, unlesse they now relish of some Repentance, will hardly render them excusable another day. But some may conjecture that there had been some grand misprision or miscarriage in my behaviour, in former times, because the Country was now so generally set against us, and so regardless of all our ruines: I shall therefore most humbly present your Majesty with a brief Relation and true accompt, of the Ordinary course of my life, and habituall conversation from my Youth ; (yet ever imploring the mercies of God in the merits of my Jesus for the pardon of my humane frailties) and then let Envy it self disprove me if it can ; So soon as I had any knowledge in the Scripture and Law of God, I did much tremble thereat, and was not bold to break and infringe the same ; and when I had attained some taste of understanding in the municipall Laws of my native Country, I did endeavour to frame unto my self a method of obedience and conformity thereunto, and also to the Church Government, not for fashion, but for Conscience sake : I did alwayes contend to be just and righteous in my profession, and I may say to my comfort, that I never wilfully betrayed any mans case, or craftily deluded or abused any Client, but was ever constant and carefull to keep my Faith, and credit with all such as have reposed any confidence in me : and some can tell, that my Integrity therein, hath procured me more losse then gain ; and considering the little practise that

that I have met with, I may comparatively, and yet without offence, speak it, that for little or no Fees, I have done as many Friendly offices, especially for the poorest sort of people, as some others of my time : And besides that, I was otherwise liberall, free-hearted, and open-handed to the poor and needy, rather beyond and above my ability, then under it ; and I dare say, that in love and charity towards my poor Neighbours, in the good time of *Christmasts*, I have frequently spent at my house in one day, more good meat and drink, then my Wife and Children since these times of trouble, have been partakers of in a whole year. And to my Superiours and Equals, I was ever respectfull and serviceable enough, where I found the least good countenance ; and to the Vulgar I wanted no courtesie, but was rather too open and familiar to them, then otherwise : But I must confesse to your Majestie, that I was yet infected with a notorious and insufferable infirmity, in any man of Art, that intended to flourish, or at least to keep himself secure from danger, in these late corrupted times ; for I confesse that all the Grammer and Learning I had, was not able to make a good Construction of that old Rule, that hath been lately so much practised by too many, *Qui nescit dissimulare, nescit vivere* ; for still I thought the sentence was imperfect, and that *male*, or *injuste*, or some such Adverb of the like signification, must be added in the end thereof, to make it up a true and perfect sentence, and therefore being so weak a Schollar in this point, and altogether destitute of the facultie, or rather frensie of dissimulation in that nature, I still continued my constant and common course, in the pathological reproving of those Epidemical vices of Schism, Sedition, and Rebellion, in all places and persons without exception, and very seldome spared any man ; and this was the cause I conjecture, that the restie and galled jades, when they had once gotten their teeth and beels at liberty, did bite so venomously, and kick so sorely against me and my distressed Family, for my sake : For as they were still in contempt and penury at home, so was not my self oftentimes out of danger and vexation abroad, for in many places where I came, I did perceive that although they loved my Person, and the cause for which I suffered, very well, yet they were still

Henry
Whitcroft
Gent.

affraid of being Plundered forsooth, or to fall into some other danger, for giving me entertainment, if my condition were once discovered; and this sometimes did enforce me to a little more silence, then I did believe my cause and duty required: And that was difficult and irksome enough to my *Genius*, and made me many times depart soon from some houses, where I could otherwise have been contented to tarry longer: At length I came into some parts of high *Saffolk*, where I had divers Kindred and Acquaintance, and indeed there I found very courteous and free entertainment, for a long time, and yet I must still meet with some rubs, for being at a Kinsmans house in the Borough of Eye, and that was one of the Aldermen there, upon a time another Gentleman that was an Alderman there also, did request me in kindnesse to walk with him to an Inn, to take some little chearfull refreshing, and we being there together in a room, with some others, after a while in comes a Trooper, who being bred and born in that Town, was known to the parties, and therefore some of them did invite him to sit down; and some discourse then happening amongst us, concerning the times, I did stoutly vindicate and maintain his Majesties right, and the justnesse of his cause, and much inveighed against the schism and rebellion, which had so foully infected the Nation, and bewitched so many: and then upon my self, and this Trooper grew at some difference in word, and yet I confesse I was not fearfull of any danger from him, in regard he was known to those that were then about me, and whom he might well perceive to be my Friends, and yet thus it chanced, that I having some occasion to walk out into the yard, this wretch sone followed me, and drawing his Sword, did run full at me, when I had not so much as a stick in my hand, and he might easily have killed me, if God in his mercy had not given me the courage, and agility presently to put by his thrust with my hand, and then nimbly getting within him, we were soon espied by some that were near, and so were parted: and as foolish harte braind and mad as this fellow then was, yet not long after it pleased God (to whom be the praise) so mercifully to open his eyes, and convert him, that he laid down his armes, utterly deserting the Rebellion,

and

and fell to his wonted work and labour again; and (as I have been many times told) cries out against their villanous doings to this very day: But within a while after that I had escaped the danger of this late event, my Kinsman was sent for by his Brethren, to come to their Moothall, and there they did much question with him, what Gentleman it was that then kept at his house, and what was the occasion that he tarried there so long: and he gave them answer in truth, that I was his near Kinsman, and also told them my name, and indeed he needed not to be very chary thereof, for most of them did already know me well enough, but quoth he, how it cometh to passe, that I have so much the fruition or enjoyment of his good company at this time, I do not certainly know, neither is it e vill for me to demand a reason of my Friend, why he doth tarry so long at my house; but very soon after there came a kind of a scurvy Captain to my Kinsmans house, and made an inquiry for me, and said, that if I continued thereabout, I would suddenly be had, and this was only to drive me away from my friends, and so to expose me to more vexation, travell, and trouble, for sure enough they would have laid hands upon me, and kept me as a Prisoner, if they had known how to have gotten any thing by the bargain, but they had heard that all was taken from me already, and so there was nothing more to be got; and this was the principal Antidote, next to the mercy of God, that preserved my body from the fury of their greedy and ravenous jaws: But I took this fellows words as a fair warning, and therefore finding my self to be thus ferritted, the next morning being Sunday, in the most private way that I could, I soon bolted out of that Borough, and by the means of a Gentleman of mine acquaintance, I was conducted to the house of an honest substantial, and Gentile Tenant, belonging to that Honourable Knight of* *Brome hall*; where although I had no acquaintance, yet my condition being once understood by him and his wife, I was as lovingly used and made wellcome, as if I had been their own Brother; and here in quiet I refreshed my self for divers dayes together, at that time, and afterwards when I came into those parts again, I did repair to the same house, and alwayes received there the like loving and comfortable entertainment. And now from this house I marched into

* Now
the Right
Honourable the
Ld. Cornwallis.

Robert
Bacon,
Gent.

Norfolk, and there at a * Kinsmans house called *Little Thorp Hall*, that stood somewhat privately from Neighbours, I received much comfort, and very good free Quarter for a long time, and I do truly acknowledge, that I was much beholding to himself, and his good Wife, and Family, and to some other Gentil men at *Dickleborough*, and thereabouts: And then also I was much engaged unto a vertuous and generous Widow, the Relict of *George Gawdie, E^q*, and to others of her worthy alliance: And further, by the means of this my Kinsman, I was brought into acquaintance with divers other honest Gentlemen of Quality, from whose hands I received much curtesie, and respect; And yet ere long, if it please your Majestie, I must undertake another venture and voyage; for being at *Blofield Parsonage* beyond *Norwich*, where I found the Gentlewoman of the house in desolation and danger, in regard her Husband was departed from her, and gone to *Oxford* for his safety, and yet she had still good means to subsist withall; but I observing some passages of discontent and trouble to be amongst them, the same did the more lively and sharply represent to my understanding and thoughts, the sad and more miserable condition of my poor wife and children, who had very little or nothing at all, wherewith to help themselves: and yet I think that a while before, the Committees for very shame had laid them out a fifth part, but alas it was little benefit to them, because they had no means to manage & stock the same. And now having not seen my wife nor any of hers, but my eldest Son for the space of a whole year and more, I was not able any longer to absent my self: and yet to go home amongst them, was danger enough to me: and as their indigent condition then stood, it was but cold comfort sufficient to kill the heart of us all, to meet together and to see that unwonted want, and never-before known povertie and miserie of one another. But God be praised for it, I had still the testimonie of mine own conscience to comfort me, in the midst of these our sad calamities, that I had wilfully done no wrong to any man: For indeed that very thing for which the people esteemed me to be their worst enemy, was the truest manifestation and most infallible sign of my sincere love, best affection, and faithfull friendship towards them, in the

reproving

reproving of their grosse errors : and I may truly say, that as mine innocencie was bold, so was mine affliction bitter ; and yet all the sufferings that ever I talked of, had they been far greater, could never so much vex and torment my soul, as it grieved me to see my sottish seduced Countrymen and neighbours, so madly to run on headlong to their own ruin, destruction and damnation : But I still prayed to the God of Heaven, desiring their true conversion ; and that my self and mine might obtain the grace with faith, and patience to consider and say, with holy *Job* ; *Naked came I out of my mothers womb, and naked shall I return again, the Lord hath given and the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the name of the Lord : and shall we receive good from the hands of God and not evil : remembering also that it hath been the portion of my betters and superiours in all successions of ages, to be villified and persecuted for speaking of the truth, and yet God grant that I and all mine may evermore be mindfull of this Adage, Strive for the truth unto the death, and the Lord shall give thee life.* Now if it please your Majestie, having formerly sent a Letter to my wife intimating her to use the best means, that she was able, to give me a meeting in *Cambridgeshire*, at the house of a nobly bred Gentleman, that was her mother-in-law, and a widdow, where I was confident we could not fail of a free, cordial and kind welcome, it was therefore at that present my chiefest care and task how to convey my self thither, and to be at the place appointed within the time limited, according to my promise : I was then divers miles beyond *Norwich*, and the journey I had to take in hand, I beleeve extended to three-score miles at the least, I had no horse, and my whole stock of money which I then had, was but only a pair of single two-pences, yet the helighth of my courage and confidence, would not permit me to make manifest my necessities at that time, which if I had done, I well know that there were some in the house, from whence I was then to begin my journey, that would willingly to their power have furnished me with monie, although they were like enough afterwards to want it themselves as the world went : for some of them long before had afforded me friendship in that kind, upon their own accord, without any request of mine, but now providence

would not permit them to offer me any such curtesie, perhaps because the Lord was intended to let me see, how abundantly he was able to make provision for me some other wayes beyond my expectation : well, when I was about to depart, there being a young Scholar in the house which in the Doctors absence was Curate of the Parrish, he most kindly proffered his service, to go with me 2 or 3. miles onwards of my Journey, and Sir, quoth he, if it please you to ride so far as the Ferry, you shall have my nagg, it will ease you a little, and I will walk thither on foot, and see you ferried over and so return, I thankfully accepted of his love, and thus we went away together, and anon we passed the ferry, & the Schollar generously paid the ferriman, or else the moiety of my small stock had been in hazard, and past recovery, and then also he spent a groat more upon me, at the house near the ferry, and so we lovingly parted. Away I marched to a Gentlemans house of good quality which had been mine acquaintance from my youth, who had seen me lately in that Country, and invited me to his house, but now when I came there, the hardnesse of my happ was such, as the Gentleman and his wife were both from home, and I being unknown to the servants, must be content to passe away with a cup of beer, and a few good words : and yet before night I did well arrive at an honest Vicars house near *Normich*, where I found good quarter, for as long time as I pleased to tarry, and then he lent me a horse, and conducted me himself to a Gentlemans house about 8. miles further, and there we parted, from thence I marched on foot a while after, and there was a Gentleman then living there, that was so kinde as to walk a mile or two with me, and as we went together he asked me, if I were well monified to passe thorough my journey, I answered him, that I had but very little money, and yet a good courage still, for to tell you the truth, quoth I, there is but one groat about me : alas he replied, that he was sorry that my want was not knowen before I came from the house, for if it had, there would have been a supply made; but he told me that he had but little money about him at that time, but Sir quoth he, here is a *shilling* if you please to accept of it, this will give you a bait as you travel; I had put up worse wrongs before, but seldom so small a fee, & yet for the augmentation of my

my little stock, I was well contented to take it and put it up, and to after a little further walk and discourse, we two in loving manner did part asunder. And soon after this I did well arrive, at my said Kinimans house called *Tborp Hall*: and there resting my self for some few dayes, by the love and kindnesse of him, and one Mr. *Carrwright* a Divine, that lived near, I was freely furnished with an able horse to travell some part of my journey, and also with other good accommodations that were very expedient for me, at that time, and to avoid further prolixity in the relation of the severall particulars and passages of that my Voyage; so it was that it pleased God to procure me so much favour and friendship at the hands of divers Gentlemen, as I passed along the Country, that I was then never destitute of a good Horse to carry me from one Stage to another, nor yet of any other necessities that were requisite for mine use: for just upon the very day that long before I had appointed with my Wife to give her this meeting, I came riding up the Town towards the place in this posture; I was bravely mounted upon an excellent good Nag, with money jingling in my Pocket, and a compleat Foot-man in his Coat well accomplished running by my Horse side; in this manner I approached the house, and I dare say that I was more truly welcome, then some Lords would have been at that time, as the case stood, and yet no Wife of mine appeared that night: the next day I went to visit the Vicar of the Parish, which had joyned us together in Holy Matrimony above twenty years before; and then I presented him with a brief Relation of my late Voyage, and that the principall occasion of my coming thither at that time was to meet with my Wife, telling him also, that I feared she was not well, in regard I did not hear of her according to the intent & direction of my last letter sent unto her; surely quoth he, there is some obstacle in the way that hinders much, but if you please to be content Sir, you shall soon know what the matter is, for my Brother hath a good Horse, and I will send him over to your house, and he shall bring you notice how things are there at the present, and what is the reason that Mrs. *Winlock* doth not come as yet: I was much glad of his kind offer, & so not long after the Messenger was sent accordingly, & returning the next day he did

did certifie me, that my Wife and Children were in good health, and that the Cause that she came nor, was for that she could not procure Horses as yet to bring her thither, and alas she was not then so much as worth one her self, being very loth also to trouble her Friends in *Cambridgeshire* so much, as to send so far for Horses to convey her thither, but she hoped that ere it were long, she should find a means to come and see me, and the residue of her good Friends there, and accordingly within a week or two after she did come, and there by the large and loving respect of that noble Gentlewoman her mother-in-law, and another good Lady the relict of my wifes brother beforementioned, we did enjoy a free and cordial entertainment, with much solace and comfort: but this our glimpse of happinesse if it please your Majesty, did admit but of a very short continuance, and must soon suffer an eclipse, for we had not been thus together much above a week, but some that I fear resolved to work us mischief, were as evidently envious that any other should do us any good, for there was a Letter conveyed unto me, which came from my wifes own Nephew, her deceased elder brothers Son, who was then a Deputy Lieutenant of the Shire, a Justice of the Peace, and one of the Grandees of the Committee, or English Inquisition, intimating unto me, That he well understood, in what place my abiding was at that time, and also how violent my ordinary and constant discourse was against their proceedings, and therefore I must not be suffered by any means to rest any longer in that Country; But an Order should presently be taken to apprehend and secure me, or to this effect, with some other passages therein very abusive and scandalous to my credit: a notable Nephew and sincere Saint in the interim, thus to offer me such a reforming curtellie in this case of my calamity, and so *Judas*-like to go about to betray, and affright his loving & harmlesse Aunt, (after so many bitter pills of affliction, as she had formerly swallowed) and only upon this occasion, because she had a Husband that durst speak the truth; a coarse complement from a true Christian, or a generous Gentleman; and yet we were in doubt that he might prove a man of his word, and therefore to avoid our own danger, and the detriment that might arise to the house thereby, the next day with
sorrow-

sorrowfull hearts we went away from thence, to shift about as well as we could; But so soon as I was gotten out of his purlieu, I saluted his worship with a thundring Epistle, enough to startle and rowse his conscience, if he had any: and I do hope that my reproof and good Counsell, did work something upon him, for after this, I ventured divers times to come into that Country again, and yet I never heard of him any more in this kind: And the truth is, as I have been credibly informed, that upon the most barbarous assassination, and more then hideous and horrible Murdering of his late Sacred Majestie, this grossly seduced young Gentleman was stricken with such terrour and amazement in his soul, that he presently deserted and gave over all his Offices and places of trust and command, and was never after that any agent or instrument in that devillish Rebellion: and here-upon within a while following he was in great danger himself, and had surely been sequestred, had it not pleased God in his mercy to take him away from his Wordly Estate here, that was fair and great, and to give him I hope upon his true Repentance, a farr more Blessed and Glorious habitation in the Heavens to all Eternity. And so I trust that for our Eternal good, the Lord was pleased to lay out for us the bitter portion to be such pitifull pilgrims; but my Wifes condition could not long endure this manner of misery, for she of necessity must go home again to her poor Children, where alas there was little left but the bare walls, and their own weak labours and endeavours, to sustain themselves withall; and I must still travell about I knew not well whether, and my successe and fortune was very various, sometimes fair and pleasant, and soon again stormy and troublesome, and yet I confesse and praise the goodnesse of God, I did meet with many good Friends, whose names and charitable deeds towards me and mine, were too tedious here to be related, but I hope they shall not be forgotten in Heaven; and yet I should think my self guilty of ingratitude, if I should not make mention of the many good respects and great kindnesse which I received at the hands of a Noble hearted Gentlewoman then dwelling at *Hitcham in Suffolk*, who was a deep sufferer her own self; namely *Mrs. Bing*, the Wife of *Henry Bing Esq;* then a Captain in his Majesties

Armie, and the Grandchild unto that honourable and famous Father of the Law Sir Edm. Coke Knight, late Lord Chief Justice, &c. and also from the hands of another worthy Gentlewoman in the same parish, who was likewise a great sufferer, namely Missis Breton, the wife of Mr. Lawrence Breton Bachelour in Divinitie, a learned orthodox and worshipfull Divine. Neither must I omit the remembrance of the good love and favour of my noble and old acquaintance Sir William Denny of Norfolk Baronett, nor the great kinde of Thomas Jermy of Mansfield in Suffex Esq; Son and Heir of Sir Thomas Jermy Knight of the Bath, and of John Risby of Thorp Esq; Nor the kind love of my Reverend and worthy Friends Doctor Pierse of Wangford, Mr. Thomas Greek Rector of Carlton, whose Grandfather I take it was one of the Barons of the Exchequer; Mr. Sendall Rector of Brinkley, and Mr. Underwood Rector of Chevington: and although they be last here mentioned, yet meriting of me as much respect as any two friends that I found in all my travels; viz. my loving Kinsman Mr. James Floud then of Weston in Cambridgeshire, and Mr. Tho. Ward of Abington. Thus after a long and tedious perigrination I came at length by the mercie of God to the Mansion-house again of the two good Ladies before mentioned, and having heard that his late Majestie had deserted Oxford and rendred himself to the Scots, it was verily thought and expected by manie, that they would have proved more honest men then the sequele declared them to be, and that by their means the vast differences in the kingdom might possibly have met with some mild and reasonable reconciliation: and hereupon, and in respect of these hopes, your Majesties Subject after his so long absence, had *animum revertendi*, a minde homewards, and therefore intreated the good Ladies that he might send for his wife to have some conference with her, whereby he might understand how the passage went in his own Countrie, how the people were still inclined and affected, and what was like to be the worst proof or hazard of that his dangerous design of returning home: so this the Ladies most lovingly accorded and agreed, and forthwith a means was made to fetch my Wife thither unto me, where being together, I soon perceived by her discourse, that the people

people having been so long pinched with payments, and their purses so sore exhausted, were not altogether so hot and violent in their mad humours, nor so maliciously bent against those that did oppose their doings, as formerly they had been, when the fire of sedition was first blown up and kindled amongst them: And after much questioning and discourse between us, whereby I did soon perceive the great want and penury that both her self and my poor Children then lived in, my heart was much melted thereat, and I told her, that the bowells of my compassion were so much moved, as that I could no longer absent my self from amongst them; but if God gave me leave I would very suddenly return home, whatsoever became of me; Alas, quoth she, I fear that will not be the best way, for if they do lay you in Prison, where can you get means to find your self sustenance? and if they do let you alone at home in quiet with us, yet how can we possibly make any shift to maintain you? for all that we have or can earn, is too little to buy our selves Viſuals, and no body thereabouts will trust us for so much as a loaf of bread: Well, said I, let us be yet contented, and wait still upon God; thou knowest that I have a faculty to help my self, and if it be once known that I am come home again, I believe that some will repair unto me for Counsell, or to make Conveyances, and other Writings, and so perhaps I may get something to help to support you and my self: Alas, answered she, I doubt that the most part of the people thereabout do still so hate you for so strongly opposing their doings, as they will hardly come at you upon any occasion, to do you any good: Yes, quoth I, they will be willing enough, to serve their own turns; and I thank God I have the testimony of mine own conscience, that I have deserved no mans hatred, in the way of my profession, for I was alwayes diligent to deal honestly therein, and if they be not stone-blind, my present sufferings will give them a greater proof and experiment of my integrity, then ever they had before. And thus committting my self and my case to the mercy of my God, within a few dayes after that my Wife was gone home, I my self followed, and with confidence went openly home to mine own house, after sundry years absence; and the Sunday after I repaired to the

Parish Church, where I had not been in almost four years before, and therefore might expect the welcom of a great stranger: after the Sermon ended the Parson with admiration lifting up his hands did salute me, and congratulated my safe and happy return to mine own home; I thanked him, and said that I trusted in God that my return would not redound to my detriment, in the conclusion, for I was not in the least degree perverted in my judgement, but in the same mind that I travelled abroad in the same I was now come home again: I could not dissemble at the first, neither will I at the last, and howsoever this my assertion was then relished I know not, but both the Parson and his Curate, returned me this fair answer, That it was a good resolution not to dissemble: and yet neither of them had faith and courage enough to follow my steps, although I had chalked them out the way: Well in this condition I continued freely uttering my mind in the truth of my heart, to all men upon everie fit occasion: and soon after I sent my Son with a Letter to a Knight in Essex that was then able to have done us a favour, but he was very afraid, and told my Son that he had heard before, how I was come home, and that a course would be taken with me ere it were long, and that he would by no means have any conference with me, unlesse it were at the Committee Table, whither I disdained to go, except I were carried perforce; yet after a serious consideration with my self of the great and pressing extremities, that we groaned under, and of the true and just equitie of my cause, I did deem it not unlawfull to relieve my self with mine own, if with any conveniencie I could effect the same; and therefore not fearing the face of their tyrannie, I resolved to look upon them, and to hear what they were able to alledge against me, and by Scripture, Law and Reason to justify my doings: but first I set forth in a Paper a Summarie Relation of our lamentable Wants and miseries, and then desired that I might have my land in mine own possession, paying out a tribute although it were more then the assessments did amount unto: and this I would truly have paid with as good affection and devotion, as ever I should have paid it to the Turk, if his forces had over-run this Nation: and upon the day which the Knight had appointed to my

my Son, that I should come to Colebeſter, thither I trotted on foot: and being become a ſtranger there alſo, by the means of my long abſence, I was not much aſhamed boldly to inquire for the Committees, but none I could find out, perhaps they were afraid to meet that day, leſt I ſhould trouble their patience with ſome parables of truth. Yet at length I found out where one of them was, but my buſineſſe was out of his way, for he came only to receive monie, which the Under Publicans did bring in without fear or wit, and when he heard that I was in the houſe, he ſent me word that he would come and wait upon me; No quoth I to the Meſſenger, I muſt wait upon him as the caſe ſtandeth: in troth the Gentleman had been my old acquaintance and my client, and I was not jealous at all of being bold with him, but up I went where I found him in the miſt of his treaſure, with manie Countreimen about him with their hats off, and purſes emptie, for he was a man of a quick receipt, and verie good acceptance, and truly he received me with more fair curteſie then I could ever have expected from any man in ſo foul a function: We two withdrew awhile and had ſome conference, I ſhewed my paper aforeſaid and left it with him, intreating him to communicate it to the reſt of his brethren the Committees when they met, and deſire them to conſider of it, and that I might ſoon know the reſult of their conſiderations therein: all this he promiſed me faithfully to perform, but I heard no more of the Committees, nor they of me for 3. or 4. years after. And being thus left deſtitute of all manner of relief from theſe Religious Rebels, although I deſired not ſo much of them as was duly and truly mine own both in Law, Reason and Religion, yet their wretched and perverſe wills moſt wickedly contradicting all the ſound and perfect rules both of divinitie and humanitie, therefore my poor diſtreſſed companie muſt ſtill continue in that irkſom and greaſie trade of carding and ſpinning, to my no little grief and vexation, and yet oftentimes I did encourage them to wait upon God with patience, and to remember how their Fathers Loyaltie was the occaſion of their preſent miſerie: and although that the root which they now taſted of were bitter, yet it might produce and bring forth ſome better and more pleaſant fruits in the

end : and I did oftentimes merrily tell them, that upon the matter, they were in truth the Kings Spinners, and therefore people of a farr better rank and quality then the base World esteemed them to be, and thus with as much alaerity as I could, I waded thorough a sea of miseries, continuing still in my discourse, and otherwise as true stout and high a Royalist I beleve, as ever breathed in *England* : insomuch that divers of the blind beetles would say, that I was as bad still as ever I had been, and that it was pity that I was suffered, but I little regarded their censure, knowing that it was my duty to speak aloud, when the Glory of my God, the Honour and Safety of my King, and the good and quiet of my Native Country, was in so great hazard or jeopardy. One Sunday as I came walking with the Minister from Church and many others following of us close at the Heele, I said unto him, that above all men I did much wonder at those of his Coat, which had so grossely forgotten themselves ; for I beleve said I, that if it pleased God to permit the Devill himself, to assume the shape of a man, and to put on a Parsons Gowne, and come up into a Pulpit to preach, yet he is so knowing a Spirit, and doth so tremble at the Judgement to come, as he never durst entertain the impudence to utter so much Blasphemy and Treason as some of yon have ventured upon : Another time I told him that it behoved him to be very cautious of meddling in such matters, for if he chanced to offend in that nature, his offence would be greater then other mens, he asked me why so ? and I made him answer, the reason was apparent, for there be many shuttle brained Fellows that have lately come into a Pulpit, who trusting to a confused memory and the volubility of the tongue, do often times *ex improviso*, and without any premeditation, presume to vent and utter some undacent and irreligious absurdities, whose rashness is to be pitied, and doth somewhat extenuate though not excuse their presumptuous folly and prophaneesse : but you it is well known do study and write down every word in your Sermon, and make a constant use of your papers in the Pulpit, and therefore if any vain impertinent or erroneous doctrine doth proceed from you, it must of necessity be after your premeditations, and so upon malice prepened, which is a sin with

a witness and much aggravates your offence and makes it the more unpardonable; and certainly my plain dealing did the man no harm or prejudice, for he waxed still more and more moderate, but I could not endure to come at his Mock fests and Thankgivings, but ever dissuaded him therefrom, with the best reasons I could remember either out of the Scripture, or other Learned or Historicall Authors; and once I told him that I much feared I should forsake his Church, I hope not so quoth he, yes truly said I, for I do seldome come there but I see that which doth much offend me, I pray Sir what is that quoth the Parson? I answered him, that whensoever I stood up in my Pew being so near the Pulpit, I could not chuse but espy his Directory, or Devils story lie still in his Desk, and I could not endure to behold such an ugly and deformed Imp of schisme and sedition: and then he replied unto me, that if it offended me I might take it away if I pleased; not so quoth I, for it is a parcell of your Churches goods, and so I may be questioned for committing of Sacrilege, I will by no means foul my hands by meddling with it, but if it lies there long, I will not come at the Church: the next time I went, the bable was gone, and departed down I think to the place of darknesse where it was first hatched, for I never saw any more of it. Now about the time that his late Majesty was brought from *Holmby* to *Newmarket*, there was news spread about that the sad affairs of the Nation would soon be drawn to a better passe, and that his Gracious Majesty should be restored to his Regal rights: and we that were sufferers to our lands again, with some recompence for our former losses; and upon these reports the Sequestrators and their Adherents, that seldome or never thought upon God, did begin yet to be afraid of the law and the Lawyer, and thereupon they presently deserted and wholly gave over the possession of my Lands: and soon after without any application to the Committees, or any of their great Masters that set them on work; I made an entry upon the most part of my Estate, and held the same untill some were so venturous as to hire some part of the Land of me to farm, and the rest I kept in my hands and made hay in my Meadows, and got money for it, and took in Cattle to pasture upon my ground, for I had not moneys enough to buy

buy anie my self, neither durst I procure anie means to have cattel of mine own, lest the seditious should drive them away. But now by the help of a little Countrie practice in my profession, and these monies taken for hay and pasture, our condition was much amended and our hearts so well refreshed, as we did a little remember our selves, and so we did totally desert the cards and the wheel, and began to appear and shew our selves in a gentile garbe again, in hope that the most part of the storm had been over, but alas the worst was yet to come. But my courage being high, and remembring the cruelties that my poor wife had sustained, and undergone by these villains, in the time of my absence, for one of them that had hired some of my land of the Sequestrators, and had been a servant and retainer to my house near fortie years, and had also received many benefits and favours at my hands, did notwithstanding denie and forbid my Wife, to take any sewell for her own use, out of the lands of her own joynture, but selled and took what he list for himself: and therefore I had a great mind to sware such wretches, and commenced divers actions at Law against them, for the recovering of the mean profits of my Land, and for other wrongs which I had received by them, not doubting, that the Judges who were sworn to do Justice, could either in Law or conscience direct a Jurie to find against me, being there was no obstacle or obstruction in my way, but only an Ordinance made by a rent piece, or patch of a prodigious Parliament, and yet I had heard that their Court of unjust Indempnitie, would surely stop my proceedings at Law, and nevertheless I had a strong Zeal to be still an instrument to open mens eies, and to let the people see and learn what the Law was, although my self reaped no other benefit by the bargain: and indeed there was one which had possessed the most part of my Land, and who not long before I had seriously reproved for his so doing, and said that I much marvelled at him above others, for I had conceived a better opinion of him in former times, and his excuse was only this, that if he had not hired my Land somebody else would; alas quoth I if another will do wickedly, is that a sufficient warrant for you to do the like? No surely, for if there were no receivers, there would be but few Theeves, and if there had been

been no such Creatures as you to hire our Lands, and to buy and embezzle our goods, there would hardly have been any such impudent and impious Wretches to deprive and rob us of the same ; and certain said I, there is a time when you shall come to a strict and bitter accompt for these things, and if you chance to die soon and so escape Justice and Punishment in this World, yet you shall be sure to hear of it hereafter ; he asked me when ; and I told him at the day of Judgement : well quoth he if I may tarry so long I do not greatly care, I was sorry to hear him speak so like an Atheist, and said unto him, alas poor man, that time may come before thou art aware of it, *for as Death doth leave thee, so Judgement shall find thee*, and therefore repent in time, this man was a pure Pretender to Religion, a frequent hearer of Sermons at home and Lectures abroad : and this was the only Party that after his arrest at my suite, did apply himself to their Court of Indemnity, and there getting an Order against me, did upon a Sunday serve it upon me in the Church-porch, I looked on it, and when I perceived the Contents thereof, I cast it on the ground at my feet, before the face of him that gave it into my hands : and surely I had been soundly catechis'd for this contempt of their usurping proud Luciferian Authority, (esteemed of me as much as a Lowse, one of the Plagues of *Ægypt*) if Providence had not presently brought those Noble Lords, together with our Valiant and Beloved Country man *Sir Charles Lucas* into *Essex* in armes, and that for a time did mitigate my Martyrdome, and I was triumphantly glad to hear of their Approach : and I dare swear it for a truth, that if I had been Master of as many men as ever *Xerxes* commanded, and as much Treasure as ever *Cræsus* enjoyed, all had been suddenly sent to their succour and assistance ; but alas I had then, but one Jewell of any worth that was fit for service, and this was my Eldest Son, a Youth of about eighteen years of Age, whom I loved dearly, and was very loth to loose him, and yet willing to venture him upon so good and honourable a design, and he well perceiving my disposition, did freely offer himself, and was so ready to embrace the occasion, as I rejoiced thereat with admiration, to see the sparkes of Loyalty so soon kindled in his Youthfull breast : and both he and my self endeavoured

the best we could to procure some others to go along with him, and with all expedition I furnished him for the Journey, as well as I was then able, and away he marched on foot, with two lusty Fellows with him, and I charged them to go the most private way, and to have a vigilant eye to keep themselves as much as might be from being discovered and surpris'd by Scouts, for I beleev'd the Country was full of evill Spirits, but they had not march'd many miles, before that unluckily they fell into a Party of the Rebels, that soon robbed them of all their Moneys and let them go, yet for all this first check my Son would on still, and not long after they fell into another part of the Enemies, where there was a Lievetenant then a Rebell, but now I hope an honest man, that knew my Son well, and much perswaded him to return home to his Father, and not expose himself to any further danger, and as I think did procure him a Ticket for his convoy homewards, and this notwithstanding so soon as my Son was gotten clear from him, he went still on his intended Voyage, and with much labour and travell at length he fell in amongst Sir Charles Lucas his companies, and so came along with them to Colchester, where by the means of some Gentlemen of his acquaintance, he was soon furnished with Horse and Armes, and there continued all the time of that tedious and troublesome Siege, and had the hap to make away 3. Horses there, one was killed under him in fight at a salley made out at the East gate, another was stollen out of pasture, and the third himself and his Comrades did provide a Sepulture for in their hungry and half starved Bellies; and one time he was in danger to have been most cowardly killed by the Rebels, for being in an out-quarter of the Town, and much wearied with watching, he like a young Souldier ventured to go to bed, and in the interim the Guards were beaten up by the Enemy, who entred the house where he was, and running up the stairs to search for Cavaliers, the people of the house cried out and said, that there was no body aloft but a Maid sick in bed, and they looking in at the Chamber door and seeing one in the bed with a clout or kerchief on the head, and no hair on the face did take it to be a wench indeed, and so by Gods mercy they departed without doing him any harm at that time, and once as he told me a Bullet

was shot quite thorough the Hat upon his head, and yet he received no hurt, but surely he did happily escape many wonderfull dangers, for I know he was valiant and venturous enough, and when the Town was yeilded he was barbarously stripped of all, and put in Prison, and had the honour to be counted a considerable Prisoner, as being the son of the greatest Malignant in the Country, and in truth I much feared, that he would be the more cruelly used for my sake for there was a report that he with divers other young Gent. should be sold as slaves, and sent into the Islands beyond sea, we knew not whither, and yet I had a firm hope that God Almighty would still provide for him, and yet his poor mother was pittifully perplexed at it, for can a woman forget her oan child, or not have compassion upon the sonne of her wombe? Away therefore she travels to that unhappie Town of Colchester, venturing her self amongst that hellish rout of roaring and rampant rebells, being desirous once more to behold though with tears in her eyes and a bleeding heart, that her dearly beloved and captivated sonne: and so happie was the successe of her Journie, that by the means which the mercie of God provided for her, in a few dayes she got him off, and brought him home with her, with a world of joy to us all. But I must not passe over some passages that befell us at home during the time of that unfortunate siege, for about the beginning thereof before the Town was begirt, there came towards my house a great troupe of horsemen, who made such a thundring upon the ground that my wife quaked for fear, before that ever they came in her sight: I intreated her to pluck up a courage, and to be of good comfort and fear God, and all would be well: and so on I went amongst them, and demanded what their desire was; They answered, that they wanted quarter for themselves and their horses. Alas Gentlemen quoth I, you have taken your marks amisse in coming hither, for I am a poor sequestred man, and have but mean quarter for my self, whereat they seemed to be sorrie, and told me how they were Sir *Charles Lucas* his men, & did with well to all that were of my mind, and then I called for the best Beer I had and drank unto them, which they kindly accepted, and then I inquired of them concerning *Fairfax* his forces, and

they told me that some of them were come down near the Town, but had a sound blow given them already, and we, said they, doubt not but to deal well enough with the residue: then they asked me where anie Oats were to be had, and I told them of some Farmers houses near, where I beleevd there was the most probabilitie for them to speed, and amongst others I did nominate a Gent. then dwelling at a Mannor house belonging to the late Countesse and wife of the Right honourable the Earl of Oxford: and then one of them asked me if that man were a Roundhead or no, and I answered that he did seem to be so, but I thought it was more for fear then for love, and this I said with an intent to procure him some favour at their hands, but it fell out otherwise, for soon after they went to his house, and there took from him both arms & some corn: But divers of them did desire me much to send thē to some of the worst Roundheads in the Country; for said they, we have a great minde to deal with them: in truth replied I, so soon as you be gone from hence, you can hardly go amisse for that, for here be Roundheads bad enough, to be found in everie corner, the countrie is too full of such; but I will accuse none of mine enemies to you that are martial men, lest you should chance to offer them any unlawfull violence, for which I would be heartily sorrie, and well it was that I had the care to be so cautious, for within a day after I learned and found out that these were false brethren of the Rebels partie, and then I conjectured how they came to my house upon a meere stratagem to intrap me: Others also came the same day, and inquired if such a troupe had not been thereabouts and seemed to be somewhat vigilant and warie of themselves, and still I discoursed with them to feel what I could find out. Not long after a companie of Foot Rascals raised in the Parish, and thereabouts, came to my House upon pretence to search for Cavaliers and arms, but it was chiefly to vex and molest us, and to filch something out of my House: and many times I was troubled with Foot souldiers that came from the Leaguer, and rambled about the Countrie, but indeed most of them were more civil to me, then many of my neighbours had formerly been, and did me lesse mischief, as I might instance in many particulars, if the relation thereof were not too tedious:

dious: yet one day being in my studie I heard my Maid give a sudden shriek in the porch, and down I went in all haste to see what the matter meant, and there I found near half a score Foot souldiers with muskets in their hands & matches light, Why how now Sirs, said I, what is the reason that you come hither in such a boisterous and uncivill manner, for I have not hardly had such an affront put upon me ever since the souldiers came into the Countrey; their answer was, How they were informed that I was a most dangerous man, and kept many Cavaliers in my House, and they were sent to see, if it were so or not, and also advised to come strong, and well provided, or else their lives were like to be in danger: I was grieved at the follie and fallitie of these reports, and said, that my house was not strong enough for a Garison I thought, and therefore they need not fear any great harm there; and further I told them, if they would be quiet and civil, they should soon see how that both my self and they likewise had been abused with loud lies: and then I asked them whether they were any souldiers of the Army or of the Traind-bands, they answered, we are Traind-men, then I demanded the place of their dwelling, and they told me in *Sussex* near unto *Cambridge*, and specified the Towns where: and upon this I did mention divers of the chief Gentlemen thereabouts, asking if they knew any such, whereat one of them replied, Sir, I see that you are vvell acquainted in our Country, yes said I that I am, and there is reason for it, because I did marry my Wife from a place not farr remote from thence, I pray Sir said some of them whose Daughter vvas she, I told them, then said one of the Souldiers I know that Wor: Gentleman vvell, and I did once ask his advice vvhether it were my best vway to go for a Parliament Souldier or not, and his opinion vvas, that it were better for me to lie in the Gaole then to venture upon that occasion; vvell said I he knowes the law very vvell, yes quoth the party vve beleve that, and therefore I never vvent, but being novv in the Trained-arms I vvas enforced to come upon this service: and upon a little more discourse I found that I knew divers of their Masters, vvhoes Armes they served in, and thereupon the Souldiers seemed to be sorry, that it vvas their unhappines to come to trouble me in this

fort, well quoth I, it is my portion to be thus dealt withall, but I pray tell me in good earnest who it was that sent you hither, and they told me an old Woman, that dwelt above a mile off, and by their description of her, I knew it was the Wife of him that had possessed the most part of my land by colour of Sequestration, and perhaps she was content I should have been killed, lest I should live to call her Husband to an accompt for his Knavery: Well, now I did invite them to come in, and gave them some curteous accomodation, and being in discourse according to my usuall manner, I chanced to speak something against their Generall, whereat one of them took great Exceptions against me, and began to prate very sawcily, and hereupon a Corporall that was the chief amongst them, started up and wished him to be quiet, or else, he sware that he would slash him soundly, for this quoth he, is an honest worthy Gentleman that we are much beholding unto, and most of us here will dye at his feet, before he shall suffer the least wrong, and thus the Rascall was glad to put up his pipes and be silent: and I have thought since that God was offended at him, for as they went back to *Colchester*, this fellow fell sick, and went into a Barn and there died the next day; within a while after, one of these Souldiers came alone to my house, and being in talk with me, desired seriously to know my opinion, what I thought of their Siege, and what was like to be the issue and success thereof; Alas said I, the sins of this Kingdome are very great, and God only knowes what dolefull events may ensue upon these troubles, but howsoever your Country was ill advised in sending their Armes against their King; your Master knowes me, and what I am, and tell him that I say, that whensoever the Wind and the Tide turns, he may fairly be hanged for sending of thee, and thou for coming, if you meet not with the more mercy. About this time some of their Hartsen came to my gate upon a Sunday, when we were sate at dinner, and being discovered out went I amongst them: and when they demanded quarter I presently put in this plea to their action, that I had been a great sufferer, and almost undone by the times, and was unable to afford them that they desired, in regard I had been so hardly used: then one of them who undertook to be the Prolocutor said, If you have been

hardly

hardly used, it is but according to your desert, for you are a Malignant; How do you know that, said I? Yes very well, quoth he, for you have a Son in Colchester, to which I replied I hope that I had a Sonne there, if he were yet living: Well, said he, that is enough to make you to be worse used, then ever you were yet; Gods will be done for that said I, for indeed I shall never be ashamed of my Sonnes being there, and helping to maintain so good and just a cause, in the behalf of God, his King, and his Country, and I am glad that you have no worse matter to lay to my charge, for I hope to fare the better for that in the Conclusion: and Friend, said I, be it known unto thee, that if I had ten thousand Sonr, and riches enough to give to every of them a thousand pounds a year, yet would I venture them all in this so Just, Religious, and Honourable a Quarrell; and thus I did so far out-face this prater, that suddenly he turned his Horse head, and galloped away, and the rest of his Fellows sate still a while, and laughed heartily at his repulse. Soon after some of the Officers in the Town were at me to buy some Hay, which I had in my Barn, and I asked them for what use? They answered, to send it to Colchester; Yes, marry said I, if it were there I should be glad, and think it well bestowed, for I believe that I have Friends within the Town that are in need enough of it; Yes surely, said they, but we must carry it to those that are without the Town; I believe so indeed, quoth I, and you are well imployed in the mean time, and therefore if you buy it for them, you shall pay sweetly for it: Sir, said they, you were better to let us have it a good pennyworth, and we will pay you for it, but if the Souldiers once know of it, perchance they will take it away for nothing: Well, said I, if it happen that I be robbed of it, you shall not see my countenance much change at the matter, I shall take it as patiently as I have done losses of greater value, but if I do sell it, I will have my price for it, as I think it to be worth: And soon after there came to my Gate one of the Constables, and a Trooper with his Pole-axe in his hand, and asked for me, and I went out unto them; the Fellow was civill enough, and told me that he understood that I had Hay to sell, and if it were good, they would buy it of me, and desired to see it,
and

and so they did, and liked it very well, and asked me the price of it, which I soon set them, it is somewhat dear said the Trooper, well said I, so much I will have for it, if I sell it, but if you will talk any more about the businesse, let us go in, and you may there taste a cup of sequestred liquor if you please, is it sequestred beer, said the Trooper? yes surely, said I, it hath been so for many years: Well, in we went, and amongst other discourse, the Trooper said, that he did believe their case was good, because God did suffer them to prosper so long in it: Alas Friend, quoth I, that is no good argument on your side, for we know that God doth many times permit wicked men to prosper in their wayes, to their own destruction; and if you were an Historian, you would know that God hath suffered the Turks so to prevail against the Christians, for many hundred years, because of their sins; and which do you esteem to be the best Religion, either that of a Turk, or that of a Christian? Certainly said the Trooper, the Christian Religion is the best; You say very true, said I, and therefore consider well with your self, and do not believe that you are better Servants of God then we, or that the Religion of a Round-head is more pure then that of a Cavalier, because God for our sins hath suffered you thus a while to over-top us; for the Turks have had far greater success against the Christians, and are still in possession of the prime seat of the greatest Christian Emperours that ever lived in the World and yet by your own confession, and true assertion, the Christian Religion is the best, and is indeed being rightly professed, the only true Religion that is upon the face of all the Earth, and therefore presume not to make your prevalencie a pattern of your piety, for these you will find to be fallacious arguments in the end: and then I protested unto him, that if I could possibly be made sure (by being a Rebell) to enjoy to my self, and the Heires of my body untill dooms day, as much land as all the whole Kingdom of England contained, yet I would be torn in pieces Limb from Limb, before I would hold up my hand against my King, or any that take his part, for surely said I, the end of all Rebels will be naught, and if we look seriously into all Records, either Holy or Historicall, we shall find that their

portion

portion hath ever been according to their practise, and that the Wrath and Vengeance of God, hath seldome ceased to prosecute all such and their posterities, as have been Enemies & Traitors to their Prince, and the Peace of their Country : yet for all this the Trooper and I did agree for the Hay, and so parted in a very civill manner : Some few daies after came the Constable with his carts, to fetch away the bargain, and when it was all loaded, very honestly according to his promise, he paid me the monie for it : but then he pulled a paper out of his pocket, and said that he had a rate there for me to pay. What is that said I ? And then he replied it was for contribution to maintain the Armie; Ha, quoth I, why thou knowest that I never paid any of these rates, since the troubles did begin, but have been robbed of all my means, for my refusal, and am likewise as loth now to yeeld contribution to mine enemies, that are still so readie to destroy me and mine. That is not the matter quoth he, you must pay it, there is no remedie; I doubt thou art deceived, said I, for I will not, then I must return your name replied he, for I know not else, what to do or say in the business : I will then tell you said I what you shall say, but I prethee do not spoil the message, or errand in the delivery thereof, I would have you certifie such as shall be concern'd therein, that I am King *Charles* his Subject, and If I had but one groat in the world, it were at his service, but as for Sir *Tho. Fairfax* I desire to have nothing to do with him, for I am loth to be his slave, neither monie will I send him upon any terms, and if he or any of his be so cruel as to take away any thing I have, yet I shall pray for patience and so rest contented, until it shall please God to send a remedie, and that is the sum of my resolution. Soon after this there came to my house in a morning next my heart a creature I cleped a Quarter master, but I rather think a fiend of *Pblegion*, and yet I had the courage and cunning to conjure him soundly : this fellow at first began to prate like a proud Rebelle as he was, you quoth he, as I hear will send no contribution to the Army, no marry will I said I, you will be made quoth he, to be of another mind, and I wonder what is the Reason that you seem to be so stubborn; my reply was, that the Army and their Complices had undone me already: and besides that

both Religion, the King, and the laws commanded me not to assist them; here is much ado with a King said he, but ere long there will be a course taken with the King and you and all such, &c. speaking such horrible and villainous words, as my heart abhorreth to think, and my pen is ashamed to make mention of: Wretch quoth I, thou dost me too much honour, thus ignorantly & rashly, to couple and make me equivalent with my King; and I much admire in what bestiall Kennel thou wert brought up, for thou dost savour neither of Divinity, Humanity, or good manners, but the Wrath of God will meet with such cursed *Shimei's* as thou art: and indeed he put me into so great a passion, that I could not well remember all that I said unto him, but sure I am that we parted upon very bitter termes. About three or four dayes after, I did espie this Traytor at my gate again all alone, but before he had a Trooper with him: Out I marched presently and thus encountered him, How now said I, are you come again, are you of the same mind you were, when you were last here? I come quoth he, to see whether you be the same man or not: Yes surely said I, the same mind that you left me in when you last did see me, doth still continue constant, for I cannot endure to be counted a Turn-coat or Changeling, but if it be your mind to exchange a few words, you may come in if you will, here is no body shall hurt you, the man alighted, and in we came together, and there fell into deep discourse that was sometimes fair, and by and by foul enough, yet still I most highly maintained the justnesse of the Kings case, and did disswade the Party from Rebellion, with all the reasons and arguments that I could then excogitate, telling him the History and Fate of that seditious Earl of *Leicester* in the time of *Hen: the 3.* and of that valiant but inconstant Earl of *Warwick* in the dayes of *Edw. the 4.* and shewing him also, as briefly as I could, how fearfull and dismall the destruction of traitors had been in all ages, and countries whatsoever: but the sad result of all our conference was, that ere it were long he must come again, either for my bodie or goods: M, bodie said I, will do you but little good, but rather vex you much, for you see the manner of my discourse, and so it will continue unless: you kill me: and for my goods, I have nothing fit for your turn,

but

but a little corn to make us bread, and it were harsh crueltie to deprive us of that, besides I have very little monie at the present, having got nothing a great while because of the troubles in the countrie; for the Law is silent within the verge of the Camp, and therefore if you fetch me away as a prisoner, I shall be in danger to be starved, for want of means to maintain me; it were pitie said he that a man of your spirit should starve, and if you be my prisoner you shall not want victuals so long as I have any for my self: Gramercie Friend said I, if you be so charitable, your coming for me will be the lesse formidable, but I intreat you before that you come, either for me or my goods, to goe to God Almighty by fervent and unfeigned prayer, and to seek his grace and direction, that you may do nothing, but what you may well answer, both in this world and the world to come, and then on Gods name come as soon as thou wilt: and in this sort we civilly parted at this time, and I never heard of my Chapman after. But at divers other times I had been formerly plagued with troopers, demanding of assessments and the like, and still I made them an answer, that I had nothing for them, for I was undone already, and then their ordinarie replie was, that they must have their pay, Yes would I say to them it is fit you should, but then you must take it of those that set you on work, and I was none of that turbulent tribe, and then their common answer was, that the Countrie set them on work and thither they must come for their wages: No said I the principal that set you at work was the Devil, and he will pay you all your due wages and just arrears in the conclusion. I cannot passe over a passage without remembrance, which happened between my self and the Parson of my Parish, during the time of the siege: I had a small field of corn growing, and upon the day that it was a reaping, the Parson came to demand tithes of it: indeed said I, my opinion ever was that tithes were justly and lawfully due to the Church, so long as Churchmen did truly perform their duties, but now most of them hereabouts have most foully forgotten themselves, and are much out of rule and order, and since they have been a means to make others suffer, it is no matter if they lick a little of the same sawce; for you know that this little corn is the chiefest stock that wee

have to help our selves withall, and seeing that you and such as you are have preached up these distractions amongst us, and so have been the instruments to bring honest men to a low estate, I think that with a safe conscience and *lege talionis*, vve may withdraw your tithes until you deserve them better, and surely none you shall have here as yet, unlesse you claw for it: Whilst we were thus in discourse, off thundred the Ordinance at Colchester: List yonder Parson quoth I, what do you think of this, the Sword hath raged all the Kingdome over, and it is now come home to your door, and are ye not yet penitent for your peevishnesse? his answer was, that he hoped to meet with a mercifull King: yes certain said I, you will find I beleeve, more mercy then you expect, I am sure more then you deserve; for although the King be Gods Deputy upon Earth, and therefore we ought to honour him above all Creatures living, yet he is but a man, and his goodnesse may perswa'e him to peace and to pardon offences; but have you lived so long and is your Divinity no better, then to teach you that the making of your peace with the King will be sufficient for you, I tell you nay, for you have offended the Majestie of an eternal God, by preaching of blasphemie and treacherie, and thus abusing the King, and seducing his Majesties liege people into errors, and grosse mistakes: and as your offence hath been publick, so your contrition and satisfaction must be the same, for as you have preached the people into errors and absurdities, so you must endeavour to preach them out again, and to reduce them into the right way, and so seek to make your peace with God for your great aberrations; or else you may go to the devill at the last for all the making of your peace with the King. Not long after the siege broke up, & left an odious stink behind it, by the base & barbarous bloody assassination of those two most loyal and valiant Knights Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle, the report whereof did much afflict our minds, but whether with more grief and horror, or terror of amazement, is a question: and soon after a report was spread abroad, that a'l such young Gentlemen as had been for the King in that siege, should soon again be laid hold upon, and sent beyond the seas no man knew whither and this enforced my poor son, not yet recovered of his siege fursset,

surfet, to depart from my house, and for his safeties sake to follow his fathers pattern of perigrination about the Countrie, continuing in that pitious posture untill after that most horrible, hideous, and for ever to be lamented murdering of his late Sacred Majestie, and then he presented me with a letter enough to melt my heart into a flood of sad tears, and wherein after many sorrowfull sad expressions and fears of his dear Fathers danger, he uttered this, Oh Sir ! if they have had the execrable impudence and crueltie to cut down the high Cedar, how may the low and li lie Shrubs expect to be trampled upon. But he being gone aside and so escaped out of their pinching pawes, my self alone must therefore suffer the full force of their furie : for about some two moneths after the siege ended there came near twentie Troopers to my house upon a Saturday towards night, and there violently entred to search for me, but I was gone to a neighbours house nea long before, and they were informed for certain that I was not in or about the house at that time, notwithstanding they searched for me very narrowly, and went into my barn and tumbled about my hay and corn with candles lighted in their hands, and with danger enough to have set my whole house on a fire, and when they could not yet find me, they said aloud that all this while I was shut up in my studie, and if that door were not opened they would break it open ; and then my Wife protested unto them that I was not there, neither could she open it, because I had the key in my pocket, but yee to satisfie your selves said she, you may have a ladder and so look in at the window, and easily discover that he is not there ; and for all this with a strong iron they reaved open my studie door, and there rifled and stole from me divers books and papper, which I am sure could do them but little pleasure, and yet I would not willingly have lost the same, for twentie times more then they were worth, and also they plundered away divers parcels of my linnen and other goods, and did strike and abuse my children, and took meat out of the powdering tub, and broiled it upon the coals, and after many such prettie prancks there played, away they went. So soon as they were gone, my Wife sent unto me, and certified me how the matter was, and I came presently home, but

Some wished mee not to lodge in the house that night, Yes but I will, said I, if it please God, and yet I beleieve that I shall hear of them again before the morning, but I fear them not, for had I known of there being here before, I would have come home amongst them; well we committed our selves to God, and so went to bed: and soon after midnight we were awaked with a great rumbling at the doors, and I did presently speak and asked who was there, telling them, that if they were the Troopers, that were here lately, I would rise and come down unto them, if they will be quiet but a little while, and then I called up a Servant in all hast, to light a Candle, but before it could be lighted, these blind Zealots had broke down a wall, and yet could not see the way to get in, but my Servant opening the doors, they rushed in, and followed the Candle up to the Chamber-door, which I perceiving said, why Sirs, I hope you will not be so uncivil, to come into a Gentlewomans Chamber, where she is in bed: but I pray go down into the Hall, and so soon as I can rise, I will come unto you; And upon this, they did return down very fairly, and my self presently followed, and when they saw my face, and heard me speak, they were civil enough, and shewed me their Warrant, then I asked them what their will was, and how they intended to dispose of me for the present, it being in the dead time of the night, then they told me that their Commander in chief, and the rest of their companie were at an Inne about two miles off, and desired me to go thither; Then I must go on foot, said I, for I have no horse; Then answered they, We came up hither on foot, and so we shall bear you company, and requested me to make my self ready as fast as conveniently I could, and so I called for clean linnen and dressed my self, and being thus ready, they said that now they hoped I would quickly goe a'long with them; Yes said I, but you must excuse me a while, for howsoever you thinke of us Cavaliers, yet we have so much Religion, as to commend our selves to God twice a day in publick prayer, whatsoever we do in private; but now I have more reason then ordinary to pray with my family, being ready to depart from them, and God knowes whether I shall ever live to see them again, or not, and you may joyn with us in prayer if you please, and they seemed

to be contented so to do; But, said I, the truth is that I do use the prayers of the Church, for I esteem those to be of the best form for publick use; Then they answered, you may use your Prayers by your selves as you think fit; then I called mine own Company into another room, and did make use of the Book of Common-prayer, and prayed for the Kings Majesty, the Queen, the Royall Progeny and others, as my accustomed course and manner was; and I perceived they did listen to what I said, but made no disturbance at all, when I had done I called my wife aside in private, and between her and my self, I did equally part that little stock of money that I had, which was very small God knowes, and she did earnestly desire me to take it all with me: No said I, thou shalt have half of it howsoever, for I trust that God will provide still for me, whithersoever they carried me, and so advising her to cast her confidence upon God alone, with a Christian courage and comfort I departed away with my Jailors, taking one of my little Sonnes along with me for company, so far as the said Iune; when I came there amongst the crue of them, I was as chearfull as discretion could admit a man in my condition to be, inso much as they did all marvel at it, and said, They had seldome met with such a prisoner: I answered my cause was good, and I was not ashamed of that I had said or done in this matter, and though affliction were bitter, yet innocencie was bold, for a good conscience did cause a chearfull countenance: and thus the time passed untill it was day-light, and then we must march for all it was Sunday. the businesse forthwith was so urgent, that no delay must be admitted, either in reverence to God, or charitie to Man; but I wanted a horse, and some of the wretches were then so base as to say that if I could not get a horse, they would make me ride behind one of them: No surely, said I that shall not be, for I will chuse rather to go on foot; Then replied a sawcie fellow amongst them, you must trot apace then or else we must drive ye on; But some of the more civil sort of them said, That if I would send my Sonne to some neighbours, they beleevd I might borrow one upon such an occasion, yet I was loth to send him about upon that day, yet lest I should exasperate these fellows whose prisoner I then was, I did let my Son go, and after
some

some 2 or 3. hours running about he brought me a little Nag upon which being mounted, I was carried away thorough the street of the Town, with the sound of Trumpets in service time, and rodd so cheerly and upright, as some told me afterwards, who took notice of it, that I could not have ridden more comely, if I had been travelling to my Wedding, when we came near the Towns end, my little Son and I must part, and then I craved Gods blessing upon him, and also gave him Counsell with a Fatherly charge to remember his Creator in the dayes of his youth, and to be obedient and helpfull to his poor Mother that bare him, and in so doing, it would go well with him, in the conclusion, for God in his mercy would at length remember his, and all the rest of our afflictions : then I pulled forth a shilling out of my little stock and gave it him saying, dear Child keep this for thy Fathers sake, perhaps it is all the portion I shall be able to give thee ; yet be not discouraged at all, but remember that the whole World is at the command and disposing of God Almighty: Thus away these Fellowes carried me I knew not whether, nor for what intent, yet their Warrant intimated for *Chelmsford*, but it was muttered by some that when I came there, I should be sent to *Windfor* Castle ; and so they made me travell the most part of the Sunday, untill dark night, but the dayes being then but short, they could not fairly get me so far as they intended, and therefore we were all driven to lodge by the way ; and indeed they led me to a very good lodging, where the people of the house knew me very well, and could not heartily bid me wellcome, comming in that posture, and upon so sad an occasion ; But here in earnest the Troopers that lodged at the same house with me, and which were of the more civill sort of them, (whom their Commander did pick out on purpose, as he told me) did demean themselves very fairly towards me, and yet my discourse continued as really Royal as ever it had been, but with some discreet moderation, and alwayes when I gave thanks as meat amongst them, I still remembred to pray for the Church, and my Sovereign, and his Royal Consort and Progeny ; and so it was that one of these Fellowes, pretending some smack of Schollarship, would sometimes seem in his discourse to

contradict

contradict some of my assertions, and to utter his mind according to the then humour of the times, but he would presently cast his eyes upon me with a smile, and say, *Cujus contrarium verum est Domine*, the residue of his Company knew not what he meant, but his free confession gave me so much satisfaction, as the concertation between us two was very mild and moderate, and in truth they were favourable unto me in my expences, for I still did intimate unto them, that I would be generous enough if I had wherewithall, but had not the faculty as then, to spend money before I had it, and sure they were something sensible of my afflictions, for allwayes when the reckoning came to be paid, they would civilly accept of that which I laid down, and paid the residue themselves, and when I pleased they permitted me to go to bed, where having a quiet Conscience within me, I slept soundly without fear of danger, but some of them watched me all night, as I well perceived the next morning; And then they made hast to convey me to *Chelmsford*, where they entred the Town in triumph, with the sounding of the Trumpet, and the discharging of their Pistols: And some that knew me did in desision rejoyce at my misery, but others of a more wise and sober temperature, did hang down their Heads, as being grieved to see honest Gentlemen so exposed to the insolency of Treachery and Rebellion; but to that Inn I was carried, which was ordinarily the Common Gaol for Malefactors at the Assizes, and here I was kept with a guard untill night, and when I went to bed, I was locked up in the Chamber, and I beleve a sufficient guard was not farr off from me; Well, here I rested very quietly untill the morning, when the door being opened, I presently arose, and having notice given me, that I must be carried before those Creatures called the Committees, I did very chearfully prepare my self, and when I was ready, then the chieftest of the Troopers which had brought me to Town, was my Gentleman Usher to conduct me before them, where severall Objections and Allegations were framed against me, namely that in pleading of my Clients case, I had sometimes spoken in the derogation of Parliament Ordinances and the like, I answered, that I did not use to plead for any Client, but for my Fee, and having received

A true Relation of the Authors Troubles.

that, I was bound in conscience not to betray his case, but to urge on his behalf what I did conceive was most available for him, so far as Law or equitie did warrant me; and that it was a rare thing to hear of, that a Counsellor at Law should be called in question for his care and Industrie in the lawfull and honest pleading of his Clients businesse, which is the true performance of the trust reposed in him: and thus that Objection as it seemed was passed over, but the main matter which they insisted upon, was my sonnes being in armes in *Colchester*, charging me that I had furnished him with horse, armes and monie, to go upon that design. I answered, that indeed he had gotten a little monie at a place, where it was due unto me, but it was all taken from him, long before that he came at *Colchester*, and with armes I could not furnish him, for they were all taken from me, at the time when my house was first plundered; and horse I had none of mine own, neither durst I keep anie for divers years before: and so at length after much discourse and altercation the result and sum of the businesse was, that I must enter into a bond of 500*l.* to leave off and discontinue all such actions as I had commenced against those, that had taken the profits of my lands by force and colour of sequestration: and this *volens aut nolens*, I was enforced to yield unto, or else I must still abide in prison, and there starve, for ought that I then knew: and when I had sealed the Bond, after some consultation amongst themselves, some of them said unto me, that now if I would pay the troopers that had fetched me thither, I might go home for that time, so as I would not refuse to appear upon a new summons. I answered, that I had not monie to pay the troopers, but you Gent. said I, that did set them at the work have a large purse, and therefore I hope that you will pay them their wages: at last with much adoe I got off, but I beleeve the reason was because they could not possibly get that from me, which then I had not for my self: and so by the mercie of God, I came well home again, to the great comfort of my poor familie, being all full glad that I had thus escaped the tyrants hands, although it were upon hard terms: and for a while after we remained in reasonable quiet, and having by our industrie gathered together a little monie, we ventured to purchase

chafe a Cow, which long we had not enjoyed, but there came Troopers and took her away, for non-payment of Assessments, for indeed I had not paid any as yet during all the time of the then fore-passed Rebellion; and now the driving away of this Cow, which had been so hardly obtained, and so long time a purchasing, was a sad disaster, and did more vex us then the losse of a hundred times as much before, when we had plenty, and truly it made my little Daughter to weep bitterly, and that cut my heart, to see that I could keep nothing for the sustenance of my poor Children, and especially was I grieved for her sake whom not long before I had reproved, for endeavouring to learn to spin, telling her, that I would not have her to dirty and defile herself with such greasie work; and her answer was as well as she could, being scarce old enough to speak aright, that she had rather spin then starve; and these things I remembered to my grief, but knew not how to help my self, untill it pleased God to send a remedy: And now also the Troopers threatened to come again, and fetch away our Householdstuff that was left, if they could find no other distresse. These sad troubles, and imminent dangers did much perplex me, and I was almost at a stand how to dispose of my self, and my affairs; my Loyalty and Courage did still prompt me to venture all hazzards, but my tender compassion towards my dear Wife and Children, did work wonders upon my reall, and almost Royal resolution, and they earnestly intreated me, that if I would by no means meddle in the matter my self, yet to give them leave to use some means to pay the rates, for without payment thereof, they well perceived they could never enjoy any thing in quiet; and hereupon I sadly considered with my self, that for our sins our Princely Pilot was then taken away, and we all in danger of imminent shipwrack, and little likelihood left of that relief which we so long had hoped for and expected; and therefore though with much reluctance, I yielded my consent unto them, to do what they thought best; and upon this my Wife and my Son did seek a way to redeem their Cow, but by the occasion of divers arrears incurred since I had last entred upon my Land; the redemption of the Cow did cost them more then she was worth 3, or 4. times over. And now the people about

us believed that we should rest in quiet, without any further trouble, so long as we paid the Assesments; and so as fast as we could we got some more stock upon the ground, and lived a little more comfortably then we had done for a while before, and yet ever and anon some would be carping at me, and wishing me to get off the Sequestration from my Lands, telling me, that it was the only way for us to obtain security from danger, as the case then stood: and still my answer was to this effect, that the Devil and his Instruments brought it on, and I was very loth to seek to any of them to be my Attornies or Solicitors to take it off, but resolved to submit to the good will and pleasure of God, and chearfully to wait for a better opportunity; and thus for a year or two we continued, without any great trouble, and then having by mine own industry, and the help of some Friends, attained a small quantity of money, I did begin to intend the reparation of my houses, being very ruinous, and in great decay; but I had not far proceeded in this so necessary a work, but there was a new Alarm in the Diurnals of an Act made to sell away my Estate, and the common report was, that I had now no remedy at all to help my self, but was then past all recovery, for my Estate must be sold away, and all my company left Beggars: Hereat my Wife did much reluct, and wished that I had never laid out any money about the repairing of my houses, for quoth she, they were too good for the Rebels before; Be content, Sweet heart, said I, it is for my credit to keep my houses in a gentile manner, and those that shall enjoy them will have the better conceit of me, and I hope without doubt to see some better dayes before I dye. Soon after there came three men from London to my house to survey my Estate, and these took notice how many Rooms there were in the house, and how many Trees were growing upon my ground, and among much discourse, they asked me if I had not been a Captain in the Kings Army, and rid in a Buff-coat with many tall Fellows following me; I answered, That my fate had not been so hitherto, but I verily believed that my mind and courage was as high, and as prompt to embrace such a design, as some others, but that the vigour of my youth was past many years before that occasion presented it self: Then they replied, that if I had

not been in actual Armes against the Parliament, as they called it, then there was a Proviso in the Act for Sale that might do me some good, and so in a civill sort they departed from me; and it is very probable, that this mischief was hastned upon me by the practise of the Sequestrators, who pretended friendship unto me, but intended otherwise; for although the Assessements were paid in the Country, yet they being called upon for the Rents of my Land above, and being also ashamed, as I think, (after such horrible wrongs as I had formerly suffered) again to take away that little stock which I had so hardly gotten together, did therefore to save themselves, return into their Office above, that I was Lunatick, and that all my Lands lay waste; and sure it is there was some subtile drift, and villanous intencion towards me therein; but the prime of their Trade was to invent lyes, for the ruine and disgrace of honest men, that opposed the wickednesse of their doings. And now there was no remedy, but to *London* I must travell, where I had not been for many years before, for at the first beginning of the Rebellion, I did wholly give over my practise there, deserted my Chamber, and could not endure to be seen amongst them; yet now I must venture again, or loose all my Estate for the present, and alas I knew not the face of any of those men that I was then enforced to make my application unto, yet the Providence of God did bring me into some little acquaintance with one of the Commissioners at *Haberdashers Hall*, who was in shew a moderate man, and had some power and influence among the residue, and by his means after long waiting and expence of money, I obtained a hearing of my case, where none of them seemed to be so much an Enemy against me, as one that was of mine own profession, but his expressions there had little affinity either with Law or Conscience, and the whole result of this my hearing, was to referre my case back again to the rigorous Rump of that unlucky Parliament, and then I thought my self to be in as bad, or a worse condition then I was before, and yet still I desired to put my trust in God, by whose mercy I did continually meet with many comforts; and thus home I came again to mine own house, where I had not continued a week, but I heard newes that the Rump was turn'd out of doors by the Souldiery, and indeed I did

not grieve much at it, but took the same for a good *Omen*, that such hideous Beasts began to kick and scratch so sorely one at another, and some hope I did entertain, that now the Rump was so dispatched, we should rest in the better quiet; but not long after there came unto me an Agent for the State, as he term'd himself, and he said that his Errand was to take an Inventory of all the Goods which were in my possession, that so they might be forth-coming and responsible to the use of the State. I did know this party well, and said unto him, Your Parliament is now quite out of date, and shall these oppressions continue still? And he answered, That there was yet a Council of State, and that matters would passe on in the same manner as they did before: Well, said I, the will of God must take place, and I am heartily sorry to see thee employed upon such an occasion; Then he answered me again, that he must do those things that belonged to his Office; Why quoth I, if Satan sends thee upon a Message, art thou so fit for his turn to run presently? Alas Friend, said I then to him, I did know thy Father, and he was an honest and a Zealous Preacher in this Country, and if he were now living, I believe he would more willingly see thee come to a shamefull end, then send thee on such an errand as thou now comest about, whereat he hang'd down his head and looked ill favouredly, yet did his work, and so departed with cold entertainment; With many such Messages and severall summons to appear and to pay rent for mine own Land, I was divers times after sore vexed and put to much trouble and charge: But at length by Gods mercy, and the meanes of one Mr. Jannyson of Calcester, an old Sea Captain, that had antient acquaintance with one Mr. Winshaw a Commissioner for the compounding of Sequestrations, and did freely also without my seeking, most friendly offer me his Love and Service in that behalf; I obtained after long suit, and twice paying for it, a full discharge from that Office: and who would not think, but that I had then been safe enough from that danger? and yet my *Genius* did still misdoubt the worst, and could never be truly apprehensive of Security, so long as such Hypocrites were in Power, as made the pretence of Religion and devotion, a Cloak to cover all their Villany and Oppression;

And

And so unhappily it fell out, that I took not my marks amiss, for notwithstanding my discharge aforesaid, being as compleat as they could make any, yet still I was called upon to bring in the Arrearages of Rents for my Lands, that were due to the State forsooth as they pretended, and when this my discharge was shewed forth, and pleaded in the Country before their Auditors and Receivers, they could take very little or no exceptions against it, only they said that the Rents and Profits of my Lands would still be called in question, neither could they surcease or forbear so doing, untill such time as my said discharges were sent up, and inrolled before the Commissioners at *Worcester* house : And hereupon my self being then in Prison, by force and colour of their unjust power, I was enforced to procure a Friend, to convey it up thither, where instead of inrolling of the same, they took it quite away from me, and left me only a Copy thereof, that one of my Sons had formerly written out : and afterwards when the *Rump* recovered their peevisish power again, they made a sale and graunt of all my Estate, notwithstanding, the discharge which I had so hardly obtained, and all the wofull miseries, that they and their fore-runners had formerly so long imposed upon me, and my poor Family, only in the despite of our Loyall Faithfullness to his late Majesty, and because we refused to passe in the rank of Rebels : Such was the Charity and Justice of these wretched Miscreants, and yet for all their raging and prodigious projects against us, we had the good hap and courage to keep the possession of our house, during all the time of the late distractions, and this I think may be put in Chronicle for a kind of Miracle, and if I should make a punctuall Relation of all the Travels and Troubles, that we endured and passed thorough, in and about this last recited affliction of ours, it would produce a large volume of it self. And yet I was as much vexed and tormented with another Hobgoblin hatcht in Hell, but called an Engagement, and for the Non-subscribing of this, I was reputed an out-law, and no man that owed me any thing, would pay me a penny (unlesse it were some Conscientious soul that feared God) for they knew that I was disabled, to bring any action against them : And besides I had openly declared divers times, that I would hazard to starve,

starve, before that I would seek the help and relief of such Law-lesse Authority as was then in use; And hereupon some perverse and ignorant Wretches did deride me, and were the more prompt to work me a mischief, and Ricked not to say, that if any man killed me, there was no punishment to be inflicted for so doing; Neither would I be permitted to plead so much as in a Corporation Court, and upon this sad occasion, I continued close and retired at home for a good while, being loth to expose my self to disgrace or danger as the violence of the stream did then run, for I did then evidently perceive, that those hypocrites were not contented to captivate our bodies and estates only, but that also they endeavoured, so far as their power could extend, to inthrall our souls to eternal perdition: and I soon found likewise that my recess from a little publick imploiment, was an occasion of the greater want of means amongst us: the consideration whereof did minister a fair opportunitie unto me, to flie unto God for counsel and comfort, in this so great an exigencie; and having implored my Creator for his mercie and direction herein, I began to ruminate, and resolve to venture upon a design, whereby in probabilitie I might be exposed, either to more eminent and notorious sufferings, then I had formerly met withall, or else by some fair and irreprehensible evasion to help, and quit my self out of the trapp of that treacherous engagement, for I did conceive that few or none of the Countrie Magistrates would seem to be so grossly impudent and ineligiour, as to make refusal of that which I intended to present and proffer unto them: and so it fell out soon after, that there was much businesse at a Corporation Court near me, and where I had frequently been in practise for above 20. years before, and thereupon divers came unto m^e, with a purpose to retain me for their counsel at that time, and offered me Fees, which I had need enough then to accept of, though formerly I had refused many that were offered me in some cases, and my memory presenting that old Verse unto me,

Quis nisi mentis inops oblatum respuat aurum.

I now entertained their kind offer, but withall told them, that I feared, that I should not be suffered to plead, but yet I
would

would endeavour to do them the best service I could, or else return their Fees again: Hereupon I took a fit opportunitie to repair to one of the chief Magistrates, that were to sit at that Court, and vvhom I never took for a Machiavillian of the deepest die, and did inform him, how I was retained to come to his Court, but beleaved, that I should not be heard, because I had not taken the Engagement: His answer was, that he intended not to hinder me, but that I might speak as freely there, as ever I had done before; Well said I, but if those I shall plead against, or any paltrie fellow in court will but urge the exception against mee, I doubt you dare not but enjoyne me silence: You say true, quoth he, and therefore it were well that you would subscribe it, whereunto I replied thus, I hope that you will not impose anie thing upon me, that is contrarie to the Word of God, or the Lawes of the Kingdom. No no quoth he, not by any means; Then said I, with a reservation to that effect, I will subscribe it; and so we went together to the house of another Magistrate not of capacitie enough to practise much mischief, and there before them two, I did subscribe it, with this protestation, so far as it was not contradictorie and repugnant to the word of God, and the fundamental Lawes of the Kingdom, and this device of mine did passe for currant, though certainly I was not thereby any more engaged then I was before: and yet I continued faithfull unto them in some sort, for I dare say, that both before and after this, I did ever as freely reprove their villanies, as any man that lived in England: yet I most humbly crave your Majesties pardon for this my seeming, in the least degree to yield unto them, I could hardly have done so, had I not learned the rule, *Sicut subditus tenetur ad obedientiam, ita Rex tenetur ad protectionem*: and that safeguard I was unhappily bereaved of, my conscience likewise relucted, lest through frailtie, or fear of danger, I should offend God, but I believed that in case of extremitie, it were better to fall into the hands of God the fountain of all mercie, then into the power of wicked men, who had shewed themselves almost as void of humanitie as the verie brut beasts. Not long after this I was summoned up to be decimated, and there it was ordered again, that I should

enter another Bond of five hundred pounds, but upon what condition or cause I knew not, yet by the means of some there that pretended some friendship unto me, the penalty was drawn down to three hundred pounds, and such a Bond I was ordered to enter into at *Colchester* before some of their Complices, but I had the good hap to shuffle it over, and so escaped that bondage. But notwithstanding all these my Troubles and Perplexities, or their pretences of kindness towards me, yet I could never be drawn or daunted from the defence of the truth, and the bold and free utterance of my mind therein, upon every fit occasion. Once as I was pleading in a Court for my Client, the cheif Magistrate there, and my self began to clash a little, whereupon I chanced to say, that some courses would never be left, untill the Kingdome were quite undone, to which, he answered me thus, you to be sure will be undone in the mean time, whereat I clapped my hand upon my Breast, and said, Gods will be fullfilled, but if I be undone, yet I shall have an advantage above some others, for I shall fall with Majesty, and a good Conscience, and that too many will miss of, at which some of the standers by were not displeased, for I heard them whisper and say, here is a man of a rare Spirit. And when I was in the deepest danger for the sale of my Lands, this Magistrate last mentioned, had a Son that was interested about Sequestrations and Sales, and I remembered that *St. Paul* had taken hold of the Law of an Heathen Emperour to save himself from the lash, and so I thought it lawfull for me to use the best means I could, to preserve my Wife and Children, from being turned out of doors: To this man therefore I repaired, and desired him to speak to his Son on my behalf, and he presently called for his Son, and charged him before my face, to shew me all the curtesie and service that lay in his power, and then the old man and I walked together into the Fields, where being in discourse, he said that he was sorry that it was so with me, for if you quoth he, would have gone the way that other Learned men did, you should never have had need to crave a curtesie at any mans hand, for you might have been able to do favours for all your Friends and acquaintance, for you might have been a man of great rule and command in the Country, and gotten what

Estate

Esteem you had pleased; Yes sure, was my Answer, I might have got the Devil and all; Then replied he to me, you will never leave these manner of expressions, but they do you no good; Yes said I, there will be a time when the speaking of truth may stand me in some stead; and Sir, said I, you must give me leave to tell you, that if I had gone otherwise then I have done, I had been as arrant a sinking Knave as ever pissed against a Wall; whereat the man started, and said, why I hope you will not say that we are all so: No sure, said I, my modesty will not suffer me to tell you on it so plainly, but my self had been so howsoever; And why you quoth he, more then other men? The reason, said I, is apparent, for I had then gone against my Conscience in point of Religion, and my Judgement in point of Law, and he that doeth so, I say is an arrant Knave: But Conscience, said he, must be rectified; Very true, said I, but how? it must be rectified indeed by the Law of God and Man, and not by the opinions and humours of a few factious Schismatics. This man had been a Magistrate near 30. years, and I believed that the stream of the Times, rather then the strength of his Judgement, had now caused him to run the course he did, and therefore I think that I gave his Worship such a pestilent rub as he had seldome met withall before, but my intent therein was to do him good. In the late Tyrants time, an Attorney told me of a Lawyer which I knew, that was then called up to be a Judge in one of the Courts at *Westminster*, whereunto I answered, that I was sorry for him, because I feared that he had forgot both his Law and Religion too, but alasse said I, the pride of the heart is so great, that some will hunt after, and accept of preferment, although it be upon never so evil termes, but sure such men are quite out of their wits: I wonder you will say so, said he, why if the Protector should send you a Commission to be a Judge, would you not accept of it? no surely, said I, and verily I hope that thou hast not so bad a conceit on me, as to believe that I would once entertain such an offer; and though I remembered the old Adage, which saith, That he that speaks the truth may have his head broken, yet I proceeded on further, and said, that I should rather chuse to dye at mine own Gate, then take a place under such a power, for if ever I be

either Judge or Justice, I hope at shall be in Gods name, and not in the Devils, for all Rebels are of the Devil, and only from him they had their first original. Once again in that time my patience was pitiously put to it, for having occasion to be at a Sessions, amongst other stinging stuff of cruell consequence, I heard it given in charge to the Grand inquest, that it was High Treason to say that the Government was Usurpt; in truth my heart did rise against such Doctrine, and mine eares tingled to hear the people so poysoned, and their Judgements abused, and depraved with such Devillish dissimulation, and as soon as I could I got my self away thorough the croud, and going out at the door, an Officer of the Court espyed me, and said, Sir, whither do you go so fast? Away said I, what should I do here? Why quoth he, I hope you will tarry and dine with the Justices: no surely said I, for such doctrine I have already heard amongst them, as I am resolved neither to eat nor drink with them this day: But I hope now such popular Temporisers will truly see their Errors, ere it be too late, for every such *Proteus* or *Protophates* that intends to participate of Eternal felicity, and to be as well capable of Gods mercy, as of their Princes pardon, must not think it sufficient to turn a new leaf with the times, but they must be seriously sorrowfull, and repentant for their former failings, and corrupt conversations: One of the holy Fathers used to pray unto God to forgive him his other mens sins, that is, the sins which he had occasioned others to fall into and commit; and most heartily I do beseech Almighty God, that the whole body of this Nation may obtain the grace to be truly penitent, and pathetically pious in the reforming of what hath been amisse. God and the World too well knows who were incentively the first soulders and fomenters of the late Rebellion, and so consequently it is to be feared of all the horrible Murders, Rapines, and other grosse and Atheistical absurdities and Deviations, both in Church and Common-wealth, which upon the same so sadly ensued: Have not some lately brought to a condign punishment, pretended as an excuse for their so wicked and unparalleled Treacheries, that they were Commissioned Officers under such a man? and who had he all his own Commissions from? and were there not Votes passed for Non-
Addressees

Addressee to his late Majesty? and was not the clause for preservation of his Majesties person quite left out in some of their Commissions? Alas I touch not upon these things with a desire to rub or renew the sore, but to give a charitable admonition, as a Christian salve to the soul, that such as are any wayes guilty thereof, may be drawn to abhorre themselves, and to repent in dust and ashes. It is most true, if it please your Majesty, that I was ever a fore detester of Rebellion, but I was as well pleased to endure the yoke of a single Tyrant, as of a multitude of the same stamp, and yet I could not forbear inveighing against him, sometimes in the presence of such as had near relation to him; and it is very strange, that I was not destroyed amongst some others, for many sly seditious Sots would cry out upon me, with a why you speak against the Government, but these Rurals were loth to trouble themselves, or travel up so far to accuse me, and certainly next to Gods mercy, my so seldome comming at *London*, was an Antidote to preserve me out of his clutches: For indeed, my constant discourse concerning that Tyrant was, that God had raised him up as he did *Pharaoh*, to plague his People for their sins, and to the intent, that the Lord might shew his Power upon him in the conclusion: For I never looked upon the late Rebels, and all their Complices and Adherents, but as upon the *Egyptian* vermine of Frogs, Lice, and Caterpillers, sent and suffered to torment this Nation, for their rebellious offences, and therefore I did every day continually expect their ruine; For if the Nation repented not, then I knew that God was able to punish us some other wayes; but I could never doubt, but that the Lord in his due time, would vindicate his own glorie, and truth against such wicked wretches, and suddenly send some strong favonian Wind, to disperse and drive them all into the red Sea of ruine and utter destruction. I have often wondred at the strange Hypocrisie, or strong delusions of some reputed wise ones in this Nation, for their first pretence of taking up Armes (as they held it forth to the People) was to depresse and beat down Popery forsooth, and yet some of themselves afterwards, when successe did seem to favour their factions, did put in practise and strive to maintain the opposing, deposing, and mur-

der of Kings, the absolute merit of their own Works, and the infallibility of their own dirty decretalls, such desperate and dangerous Tenets, as no moderate Romanist will now allow of, or yield any approbation unto; Nay, the very written Word of God, his ten Commandements, the Lords Prayer, the Holy Epistles and Gospels, and the true Christian Catholick Beleefe, &c. are by some sacrilegiously thrust out at the Church doors, to the end, that ignorance and perverseness may yet be nourished, and their own weak and meer nonsensicall inventions only applauded amongst the people, and for the pleasing and feeding the idle and obstinate humours of a few factious schismatics. And yet whosoever in the late times, durst but once open his mouth, to speak against such ethnickall practises, was presently branded with the odious name of a Malignant, & ill affected person to the state: but if all had been so blockish as to be silent, and not have spoken a word against such damnable doings, I think (as our Saviour saith in another case) the very stones would have cried out: & although too many were much offended at those that spake their minds in sinceritie, yet I beleeve it was happie for the whole Nation that there were some such persons to be offended at, for had there been no righteous *Lords* therein to reprove the wickednesse of others, and that were continually vexed with the unjust conversation of such *Sodomites*, there might have been danger enough for fire and brimstone to have fallen from Heaven, upon such a grosse apostatizing Kingdome; for I am sure that the sinnes of *Sodome* never mounted so high, nor cried so loud in the ears of Gods vengeance, as the bewitched wickednesse of wretched *England* for many years of late hath certainly done, the Lord in his Christ be mercifully appeased with us for the same. Indeed for mine own particlar I doe professe, and have divers times formerly said as much, that next to the great hopes, that I have for the saving of my poor soul, by the mercies of God, in the merite alone of Jesus Christ, I did never think that my God had afforded me a greater favour, then to preserve and keep me by his grace, from being an agent in, or adherent to the late rebellion: for if any thing had been amisse in the practise of religion, as was pretended by some, yet such as were not wholly given over to a reprobate sense, might easily have understood

understood, that armed violence could never amend it, but rather make all worse then it was before, it is grosse ignorance to imagine, that reformation in the Church, or Religion and Truth it self, can be setled in bloud, but only in the innocent and precious bloud of Jesus Christ; and where and whensoever any true reformation hath hapned, it was allwaies set on, and brought to passe by the means of a lawfull Magistrate, set up and authorised of God, and not by the dull endeavours, and unjust power of a few bestial and serpentine spirits, raised and conjured up by the madnesse of the people. Such prodigious devices were not in use, untill the old dragon begun to rage, because his time waxed short: but all along the primitive times, notwithstanding those bloudie, heaveie and horrible persecutions imposed upon Christians: yet those that were true godly Saints, did never so much as dream of rebelling against their Governours, for ever still in their strongest extremities, their sharpest weapons were *preces & lacrimae*, a sure symbol of a sacred heart: but all violent courses to protect themselves, they utterly disclaimed. There is a generation yet amongst us, that can never be so soundly sensible of their souls solace as they might be, if they were truly convinced of their late errors, and seriously sorrowfull and humbled for their former offences: but so long as they meet with pardon and preferment, they think all is well, but alas it is not so, for too many still fare the worse for these mens late unjust and impious practises: I wish them to remember that God is a righteous Judge, and will render just measure in due time; for oppression will ever cry to heaven for vengeance: there be many matters which they have had a shrowd hand in, that will be a bitter blemish in their armes, as long as they live: and as the vulgar saying is, may grieve them in their graves when they be dead, or at least stick sore at their souls hereafter, if they bring not forth better fruits and effects of true repentance, then can hitherto be seen or perceived in them by an impartial eye: *Such as seek to cover their sinnes cannot prosper*: and some there be I fear, whose former faults being now shadowed under a fair pretext, do still by their connivancie and countenance encourage others to be more stubborn and refractorie in the yeelding unto, and performance:

formance of such things as a good conscience will lowdly call for at their hands : and by this means also it is probable enough that some of your Ma: Subjects that have evidently demonstrated their love & loyalty to their King & countrie are still kept under, and had in derision and contempt, being basely abused and discouraged by too many of the late stupidities, to the dishonour and shame of this Kingdom, both at home and abroad, and clean contrary to your Maties good meaning, and most royal disposition, and sore against the reputation of a righteous Cause without question; and if old Gamesters begin once to belive and find, that there is now a dayes no difference at Dice, but that cogging and cheating may as well win the Game, and go away with the Garland as fairly as honest and square play, it may hereafter be a means to induce some to be cowardly, and loath again to venture themselves and their estates so valiantly, unless it were upon better terms, and at such an ill consequence or event, the enemies of the truth will be ready to rejoyce, but all your Majesties Well-wishers would be most heartily sorry for it. In truth it is now time, under royal favour, if it so please God and your Majesty, that your Graces poor suffering friends should be a little looked upon, and considered of, who have been so courageously constant in their saddest sufferings, abhorring to defile themselves, with the least tincture of Treason, but alwayes labouring to imprint Loyalty in the hearts of others; and frequently and faithfully improving their best faculties for your Majesties service, and the good of their native Country. Some of my Opposites have said unto me, that they believed it was impossible to turn me from the way, that I walked in, and that although they were not of my mind, and that I was their enemy, and did them more hurt in their Cause, than many that fought against it, yet they could not chuse but honor the memory of me, in regard that I had ever stood so stoutly to my Principles. It was truly said of the Wiseman, that when a man is well proved, then is his faithfullness known; and certainly I may say to your Majesty with a safe conscience, that in the time of the late Anarchy, my fidelity to your Grace, was sufficiently tried to the proof, for amongst all the revoluti-

ons and alteration which happened in that slippery State, and wherewith the most part of the people being desirous of novelty, were well pleased in hope of some melioration thereby, yet the Doctrine that I did ever divulge amongst all such as I conversed withall, was still to this effect, that all those alterations could never conduce to any good, but only draw on more and more Confusion, untill all were ruined; for alwayes my saying was, that right must have right, and that there could never be the least expectation or sign of any security, or settlement of peace here amongst us, untill your Majesty were restored unto all your just, and lawfull rights and royalties; for whilst that came to pass, and was happily effected, the full wrath and vengeance both of God and man would continually prosecute these rebellious Nations. Some factious and seditious Ignorants, would now and then be carping at your Majesties title to the Crown of *England*, and affirm that it came in first by *William* the Conquerour, and being gotten by Conquest, it might as well in the same manner be lost: but my answer to this was, that the Case is not the same, for *William* the Conquerour was a forein Prince, and by the law of Armes might make a Conquest of this Nation, but no Subjects can ever conquer their Sovereign; for although they do over-powre him by force and violence, yet that is no Conquest, but a meer act of rebellion, and no wayes justifiable either by the laws of God or man: and besides I commonly said unto them, that if any of their Ancestors had been seised of an Estate in Lands for the time of about 600. years, they would then think it to be more than a sufficient prescription to maintain a good and unquestionable Title thereunto. But I had a stronger argument than this to refute that Norman fallacy, for I was so good an Historian as to tell them, that within a few Discents after the Conquest, the ancient royal race was again restored; and also such an apt Antiquary and Herauld as to derive your Majesties pedigree *ab origine*, and to shew them clearly how by Gods providence, and the policy and good successe of many happy and fortunate Marriages, your Majesty was now the true undoubted Heir, unto all those famous Princes, that ever had any lawfull colour of Competition, or right unto the royal Crownes of *England* and *Scotland*. And some-
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times I have related unto them an old story of the *Abissines*, who brag that their black Imperial Prince is descended from a Childe, that *Solomon* begot upon the Queen of *Sheba*, and this they stand upon as a great and honourable Antiquitie for that Nation : but withall I did still inform these people, that your Majesties Title to *England* was full as ancient, & far more authentical : And the chief scope and end of all these my Speeches, and Relations, was to inlighten their blind Eyes, to inform their Judgements, to make them know and understand the Truth of your Majesties indubitable just and religious Rights and Authorities over this Nation, that thereby they might be induced to have a more reverend regard and opinion of the same, and so in time become inclinable to yield their due obedience thereunto. On a time being at a Court Baron in a great and populous Town, divers of the Tenants there in open discourse, did ask me many Questions in Law, which I gave them my Opinion in to their satisfaction : at the length a jolly fellow there, who was a Presbyters lay elder, did say, that the tenants were much beholding to me, for I had told them a great deal of Law ; but, quoth he, I have heard but little Gospel come from you. Friend, said I, thanks be given to God for it, I can speak Gospel too as well as Law, but Gospel now is not fit for your hearing, because you have cast off the practise of it. No, sure, said he, I do make more account of the Gospel, than of your Law. You ought indeed to do so, said I, but you have forgot your Dutie then ; for the Gospel enjoynes you to give *Cæsar* his due, and that you have quite forgotten, and where are you now ? Then I desired him to tell me, Whether he thought that *St. Peters* Epistles were Canonical Scripture or not ? Yes, quoth he, they are. Then, said I, there you fail again, for there is in them a good Document, that you and others have slighted most shamefully. What is that ? said he. It is this, said I, *Fear God, and honour the King*, and that I am sure you have quite forgotten, or little regarded these two seven years. Hereat the whole Auditorie fell into a loud laughter, and the Elder knew not what to say for himself. There was a rich Town not far from me, which at the first beginning of the late Rebellion, were liberal and very free to part with their

Monies and Armes to that purpose, but their Purfes being prettily well exhausted, and some of them not well willing, or able to spare any more Monie out of their Stocks, for the present; yet for a further ostentation, and to make their Zeal and Devotion, though blinde in it self, yet perspicuous and clear enough unto others: They consulted therefore, and agreed together to borrow 1000 pound upon interest of a rich Usurer, and presently they lent the same to the Parliament, upon the Publick Faith, though alas they knew not where that Utopian or imaginarie Creature did then dwell, neither from that day to this could they ever find out the residence thereof, nor yet so happily meet with it, as to get their Monies again. It was my chance a few years after to enter discourse with one of the most solid Heads in that Parish, and I said unto him, that I had seldom or never read or heard of such a stupified, and blockish kind of people as most of them were. Why, quoth he, are we worse then all others? Truly, said I, there be none that I know of, that have manifested more ignorance and perverseness than you have done; for when you had parted with all, and lent to the Rebels so much Monie of your own, as you listed to spare, then must you forsooth take up Monie at interest, to send the same way; and so purchase to your selves a stronger Title to the Triple-tree, for that will be your portion in the end, if you meet not with the more mercy: and was there ever known any people so sottish, as to borrow Monie upon use, to drive such a dangerous Trade; certainly a man that is not worse then mad, would have had so much Monie as he knew not what to do withall, before that ever he durst have ventured to lay it out upon so poor an advantage, as to buy himself a Bargain of such dead and desperate Warr. Indeed I believe that amongst all the Wrongs and Indignities, that were put upon me, and too tedious here to be related, there was nothing so much perplexive and vexatious unto me, as to see my native Country-men so readily run on to their own ruine, and to be so secure and confident in the wayes of Error and Destruction: but still I told them, that Security was the Mother of Danger: that they walked upon deceitfull grounds; for so soon as the Winde turned, their false Teachers would

A true Relation of the Authors Troubles.

all forsake them, clap their tailes between their legs, and run away like a chidden Curre, and that those they most trusted in, would soonest forsake them, to serve their own turns, And yet allwayes when I took an occasi on to declare my strong hopes, of your Majesties Restauration, many would seem to laugh at it, and wish me to set my heart at rest, for I should never live to see that day : to which I ever replied with a constant courage, that I trusted in God to live and see that happy day which I had so much prayed for, and so long expected, and continually hoped for so many years together, and that their security was a sign, and strong Argument to me of the more sudden approach thereof, for it would certainly come to passe when the most of men did least dream of it; and a time of the weakest probability in the eye of the world, is the fittest season for the Divine succour, and the most glorious opportunity for God Almighty to bring his own purposes, and blessed decrees to the best effect: for it was impossible for a real and true Christian to beleieve, that the divine justice could any longer suffer such usurping wretchednesse to have continuance, which had so basely and injuriously subverted the whole frame of Government, both in Church and Commonwealth, setting up such pandarising Magistrates as were content to submit themselves to be agents in the most heathenish and Mahometan absurdities; and such idolatrizing Ministers, as for *Balaams* wages were content to idolize every usurping rebell, and perfidiously and perjuriouly to defame, and cast off the Hierarchie of the Church, which they had formerly sworn to maintain, and yeeld their obedience unto, and stubbornly also to deprave and disclaim the holy Liturgie thereof, the Booke of Common-prayer, and administration of the Sacraments, and other rites and ceremonies of the Church of *England*, being in truth so holy and sacred in it self, and so consonant to Gods word, and the primitive institution of the true Catholick Church, founded upon the faith of the holy Apostles, and Prophets; as the most critical Phanatick can never be able to find the least just occasion of offence therein, unlesse it be because it is guiltie of so much puritie, pietie and perfection: and if there were nothing else to speak or plead in the behalf of it, but only this, that it was lately abrogated by a seditious

ous Ordinance; that alone were argument sufficient, to prove it to be of God, for had it been antichristian and opposite to the truth, as some most ignorantly, maliciously, and fondly did affirm; then it had never been opposed by any that were inclinable to rebellion, but rather promoted by them, for as it is the fierce facultie and inseperable accident to all rebels, to patronize, contend and fight for the defence of falsities, and lies, so is it as meer natural unto them to impugne resist and deprime the truth, to the uttermost of their power, in regard they are, and ever were the instruments and oracles of hell, and the undoubted children of their first Father the Devil. And yet all these wholesome instructions, reasons and admonitions of mine did seldome or hardly work so well upon the fancies and affections of some of the seduced ignorant and stubbornly conceited people, as I desired and intended: Indeed I know not better whereunto I may resemble most of them, then to a company of wilde apes that I have read of in a Morall, who rambling about in the night-time, to find out their prey, and being somewhat acold, at length they espied a gloeworm lying upon the ground, and taking it to be a coal of fire, they soon resolved to take a course to warm themselves, and hereupon some of them gathered sticks together, and laid them over the gloeworm, and bending down upon their knees, and blowing stoutly, they used the means as they conceited, to make the sticks take fire, from that imaginary coal, others of them run up to the tops of great trees that grew near, and broke down seare boughs to increase the flame; and thus with their puffing, cracking or crackling, they awaked a poor Poppin Jay, which had taken up his lodging amongst the branches of those trees, who was much amazed to hear so great a noise there, in the dead time of the night, and therefore he set himself to peep, and spy out what the matter meant; at the last he perceived how busie the poor Apes were, about nothing to the purpose, and how shamefully they wronged and abused themselves, by the means of their own ignorance; and this Bird being of an ingenuous nature and good disposition, was sorry to see them thus labour in vain, and strive against the stream, and therefore to draw them out of their gross error, and friendly to inform their Judgements in the truth, he ventured him-

self, & came down amongst them, and as the story tells me, said thus unto them, Good Apes you have awaked me with the great noise that you made, and since mine eyes were open, I have well observed your design, and what a pitious deal of pains you have taken, to no other end or effect, but vainly to weary your Bones, spend your Spirits, and make your selves ridiculous to the World, and being much grieved thereat, I am now come in Charity to tell you, wherein you are so grossely mistaken, for I conjecture, that your plot is, to kindle yourselves a fire, thereby to warm you, and so amend your cold Condition, but you may blow your nayles long enough, and puff till your hearts ake, before you bring your purposes to passe, for if ever you get a fire by this meanes, I dare warrant you, that it will soon burn you all to Ashes : But the Truth is, that this shining thing that you behold, is no fire at all, but a silly worm, whose nature it is, to shine and glister in the night, and so your senses are deluded with the glistering shew of a Bable, wherein there is no such substance, as you do vainly conceive in your opinions ; And therefore I counsell you to desist and give over, this your so foolish and fond attempt : Hereat the Apes were much offended, and began to storm and wax angry, and one of the principall ring-leaders amongst them, got up a stick in his pawes, and went furiously towards the poor Poppin Jay and said to this effect : Silly Bird, who made thee so bold as to come thus impudently to reprove us ? art thou so mad or foolish as to think that we know not well enough what we do, or that we will be taught by thee, or have our Judgement informed, by a simple babling Bird ? I tell thee no, for we are about our businesse, and that we will bring to passe, in spite of thy Teeth, and therefore it is madnesse in thee to admonish us, but I wish thee to give over thy prating, and get thee hence in time, for if thou dost tarry long here, and dwell upon such a discourse, we shall go near quickly to use a meanes to pull thy Skin quite over thy eares ; And in truth upon the matter, such or worse was the good entertainment, thanks, and reward, that my self and others ever reaped at the hands of the late idiotised Rebels, for all the good Counsell and Exhortation we gave unto them, in sincerely seeking their Salvation, and in laying before their eyes, the
dolefull

dolefull consequences, that must needs ensue upon their impious vain and desperate designs : But they indeed did more then threaten us, for they rent our fleeces quite off from our Backs, and would soon have had the Skin and all too, if God had not been the more mercifull to prevent it, and to stop the main stream of their malice against us: There be two small Treatises the one set forth in *Queen Maryes*, time and stiled *An Exhortation against Rebellion*, and the other written in *Queen Elizabeths* dayes, and named *Cæsars Dialogue*, they be both now almost absolete and quite worn out of use, for to the best of my remembrance, I have seldome or never seen them in the hands of any man, but mine own : And I first found them amongst my Fathers old Books, who deceased when I was a little Infant, and before they came into my possession, they were somewhat lacerated, but I did diligently peruse them over, for I was ever studious from my Childhood, especially of such things, as my *Genim* taught me, were very necessary to be known : And I am perswaded that through the Blessing of God, they were a principall meanes to imprint and sow the Seeds of Loyalty in my heart, so soon as I had the least Understanding in any literature : And it is probable enough that if I had met with the Encouragement, that some others have, I might well have been able long ere this time, to perform better services for my King and Country, then my transverse and crosse opportunities would hitherto permit me to accomplish, or bring to any such a good passe or effect as I desired ; for my endeavours being deprived of their due nourishment, the want of that made me many times the more remiss in my studies, which I am now most heartily sorry for ; But now I hope that hereafter all those that are truly Religious, and lovers of virtue and Loyalty, will not suffer the light thereof to go out, and be quenched thorough negligence, or disrespect, or the vigour thereof to be utterly extinguished in Oblivion, but that they will lend a principal eye of regard thereunto, and justly and duly encourage and advance the same, both for the glory of God, and their own special interest and concernment ; and in truth I do believe, under favour, that if those two little Books last mentioned were revised and reprinted by Order of Authority,

rity, and so freshly exposed to the publick view, they would do much good, and operate very well upon the minds and affections of the youthfull and vulgar people of this kingdom, and indeed this Nation hath need enough of good and wholesom counsels and cautions to rectifie their so long depraved judgements, and of such religious animadversions, as may totally deterr them, from the practise of that ugly, horrid and diabolical sinne of rebellion, and from the least hunting after the crack, scent or savour of such seditious and schismatical delusions as of late they were so grossly and abominably infected withall, considering also the lamentable and fearful consequences that have ensued thereupon, both in Church and State, and the most horrible and prodigious tragedies, that have been acted upon the theatre of this Kingdom, by occasion thereof, being even more bloodie, vile and villanous, then the seditious Jewes that *Josephus* writes of. who wrought the ruine and utter subversion of their famous City and countrie, did ever enterprize or intend, as I could instance in some particulars, which are so odious, and notorious to the world, as I shall not now need to defile this paper therewith. But in truth the carriage or demeanour of some people still, is so peevish and perverse, as my conscience doth urge me to relate some passages that concern my self, which I would willingly omit and passe over, were not my charitie, to reform their errors, greater then my desire to defame their actions: for certainly my self and others were of a blind belief, and stupid understanding, if we did not palpably perceive, the dolefull, and dangerous defect of contrition, and the crooked conversation that yet remains in these men, who seem to be of the Spiders nature, sucking poyson out of the same flower, from whence the harmlesse Bee doth gather honey: and it is to be feared that some acts of grace, which might well have served for their present advantage, will in the end by the bad influence of their corrupt nature, conduce and redound to their future and everlasting overthrow: for in the very place where the constancie and integritie of my truth and loyalty hath been eminent enough, and where the sufferings both of my self and family for the same have been such and so great, as many of mine enemies have had once a little compassion

passion upon us, yet even there have I found lately but few *Samaritans*, to bind up my former wounds, but some passe by without regard thereof: and too many are prompt enough to make my sore the deeper, by their peevishnesse and malice: for but a little time before your Majesties most happy accessse to your royal government, I was required to pay some assessments, which for the present I did refuse to do, in regard the payment thereof was ordered by an illegal power, and for that I was in good hope of your Majesties sudden approach to right and protect us: and after that your Majestie was so happily landed, and come to *London*, the Collectors again did demand the same of me, and said that if it were not presently paid, there must come troopers to levie the same; To which I made answer, they might come if they would, but there was no need of any such trouble, for if I could have the least notice, or intimation, that your Majesty had commanded or consented to the payment thereof, it should then be very soon discharged, but otherwise I would not pay it as yet, untill I heard more, and were better satisfied in the matter: to which they had little to say, but went their way, and for divers weeks after, whilst I remained at home in the Countrie, I never heard any more of them: but the very next day after that I was come away towards *London*, to petition your Majesty about my former sufferings, these Collectors came to my house, with about a dozen, or more Foot-souldiers, whereat my Wife in my absence was much affrighted, and yet they left half of them there to quarter, untill the money were paid, who behaved themselves basely enough, and would tarry there in spite of her teeth, to her great disturbance, and she not having the money, was enforced to maintain them all, until she could procure the whole sum which they demanded: and at this the contemners of my loyaltie did laugh not a little and please themselves, to see my house thus abused, and so suddenly after my Kings comming, which I had so long hoped for, and so much rejoyced at, as was sufficiently seen and made manifest, And since the sitting of the late Parliament, or Convention, and but a little time before your Majesties most blessed accessse into *England*, there came a gallant Gentleman to my house, and desired to speak with me, and when we came

together, he civilly requested me to excuse him, for he thought he had brought a Message that would not be very pleasing unto me, and yet he believeth that it would do me no great hurt, but a friend of his had earnestly enjoined him to tell me of it, and to hear my answer thereunto: Well Sir, said I, what is the matter I pray? It is quoth he, a Rump businesse: How so, said I, is not the Rump Plague over yet? what is the news with them now? Why said he, this Gentleman that intreated me to do this Errand, hath laid out monies about the Purchasing of your Land, and I think that he would willingly learn how he may come in to his monies again: Yes marry, said I, that were well, for as yet there is a Fool and his money soon parted, for if it be laid out upon such termes as you do intimate, then your friend if he meets with his lawfull and due desert, may very fairly totter for his pains; for in truth had there not been such sottish and covetous Contractors, for the purchasing of honest mens Estates, there had never been such unjust and impious wretches, as would once have offered to make Sales of the same; But I pray tell me, said I, who is this your friend that hath made such a blind bargain for himself? he is, said the Gentleman, a Barrister at Law, and hath a place in the present Parliament, and he hath sent down Letters of Attorney to one here in the Country, to demand the Rents of your Lands, and to fore-warn your Tenants from paying you any more Rent; Indeed said I, he is a pretty Lawyer, and hath proceeded well; doth not he deserve to be degraded, or worse, that thinks Gentlemen can forfeit their Estates for refusing to be Traytors? the Law tells him, That it is the committing of Treason, and not the disclaiming or refusal thereof, that brings men within compasse of the forfeiture either of their Lives or Estates, and therefore surely his Learning in the Law, or rather ignorance therein, doth deserve far more punishment, then preferment: Yet truly, quoth the Gentleman, he is an honest man, and was drawn in to lend money, and to obtain the same again, he was offered, and enforced to take a grant of your Lands, but he desires to do you no wrong, but will gladly accept of a reasonable composition: Then I asked him, how much money his friend had disbursed about the bargain, and his answer

was with a specification of many hundred pounds: Well, I am sorry for him, said I, for the truth is, that I will never give him so much as the skin of a Lowse, and I much marvell that any man now dares be so impudent as to talk of any Rump busineses, considering that we hope the Kings Majesty will be amongst us, ere it be long: Yes, it may be so, said he, if this Parliament will allow of him: They allow of him, said I, why is that the chief point to the purpose? I trust these will approve themselves to be wiser then some of their Predecessors, or else they must look to find the like fortune, for his Majesties Motto is, *Dieu & monDroit*, and that in Gods good time will bring him to his Crown, in spite of all opposition: Thus I so lectured my Gentleman, that he much commended of my resolution and discourse, and said that he was of my mind, and so we parted in a very friendly manner. And yet these and other numerous pranks of the like nature, that for so long a time together have been played upon me, were sufficient to penetrate the patience of a more patient, and lesse passionate man then my self, but it pleased God to make me remember, *Qui patitur vincit, patientia sola triumphat*. And I most humbly beseech your Majesty to believe, and be confident, that all your Loyal and Loving Subjects, that have been constant sufferers in the late unhappy times, will never in the least degree go about to nourish or flatter themselves in the repining against that which is your Majesties good will and pleasure, for we are well content still to endure any thing that may truly tend to your Majesties safety and advantage; and we do fervently desire, and incessantly invoke the Almighty Majesty of Heaven, in whose hands the hearts of Kings are, that he will be pleased in his abundant mercy and goodnesse, so graciously to direct and dispose of your Majesties Councils and Affairs, as may be most requisite and pliant to the performance of his blessed will, revealed in his word; and for the maintenance and upholding of the true Doctrine and Discipline of the Orthodox Church of England, as the same was settled and established at the Reformation thereof, by regal lawfull Authority: And I doubt not but that your Majestie is well pleased with us, in these our good desires; for alas it is too manifest, that the late counterfeite, though specious

shew of Reformation, and the crying down of the Church-government was a great instrument to beget and breed up that furious and giddy generation of Scismaticks, that have so long troubled, and almost confounded the whole Nation. And it is to be feared, that some will think it now scarce consonant to distributive Justice, that such as have been so much hindred and almost undone for their Loyalty, in the late times, should still be oppressed in their Purses, to help to beare out other Mens misprisions, and perversities: or that constant Loyaltie, and his inveterate opposite and antagonist, though in a changeable coloured Coat, should yet walk together in æquipage, and be equivalent in countenance, and respect; And yet notwithstanding we are content, and do rejoyce only in submitting to your Majesties good will and pleasure therein; and though perhaps for some serious considerations of State, not yet well known or apprehended by us, we are at present debarred from something, which the benefit of the Law, our birth-right, might very fairly have afforded us, yet we gain this honour and satisfaction thereby, that it is now manifest to all the world, that can see, and will not be wilfully blind, that all the Rapines, Wrongs and Oppressions, so lately imposed upon us, were utterly illegal, and that we had a good and just right of recompence for the same, both in point of Law, Equity, Reason and Religion, and especially such of us, as had been constantly loyal, and wrought no detriment to others; or else to what purpose was there any new Law made to deprive us, but *pro tempore*, of that legal Legacy, and inherent Inheritance, which the great Charter of *England*, the continued will of so many famous Kings and Parliaments, for so many hundred years had in lawfull manner bequeathed to our Ancestors, and in them to us, and our Posterities. But I touch not upon this string to any other end or intent, then only to reffise, how I do believe that some others as well as my self have met with occasion clad or dressed in a more discontented habit, then was expected, for none of us, are so deficient in understanding, but that we are apprehensive enough, not only of the greatnesse of the grievances we have endured, but also of the smallnesse of the regard, and countenance, which at some mens hands we have received for the same:

and

and yet as we cannot but be sorely sensible of our Sufferings, and slighings, and the slender notice that is taken thereof : So we will not at any time be emulous to accomplish the right of our desires, not so much as in thought, otherwise than the correspondent good will and pleasure of your Sacred Majesty, and the known Laws authorised by the same, shall give us free liberty and we are sufficiently confident, that upon the true resenting of our Loyalty and Losses, and the due consideration of the nature, and of other passages thereupon, now so fast knit to our Obedience, your royal Majesty will soon conceive, that in point of honour and conscience, your Grace is the more engaged to look upon us, and without that favourable aspect, we not only fear, but find it too evidently hitherto for a truth, that the Chameleons of this age, who feed upon the Utopian aire of their own frothy inventions and conceits, will never come near us, and so be adapted to turn themselves into our colours and constitution, but rather with reproach abandon us, and so totally deprive themselves of that good, which our Councell and Conversation might minister amongst them: and were it not great pitty, that so worthy Qualities and Faculties as Loyalty, and Courage, should unhappily prove and become the Ushers in of Obloquy and Contempt; or that so rare and precious a prize as Vertue, for want of a few external Ornaments and Additaments, should be in the least danger to be despised in its own Country, or Family. In truth for my own part I have had the tryal, to meet with more abuses, and sarcasmical scoffs of late, then I intend to regard, or mean to mention; but as touching any kindnesse, favour or furtherance to refresh me, after my long oppressed and indigent Condition, I can gather up that but very thinly, although there is as much reason for me now to expect practise, and as much faithfull industry, and ability to perform my undertakings, as there is in some others, that reap a more plentiful harvest of their endeavours, yet there is such an antipathy between most of the Country, where I live, and some of my best Qualities, as the greatest part of the people are much averse to be acquainted with me, remembering how sharply in former times I did reprove their Fol-

lies, and laid open the deadly dangers they were in, of which esteeming themselves now to be secure, and indemnified, they look still somewhat strange upon me, and will hardly come near me: *manet alta mente repositum iudicium Paridis*: and therefore I begin to believe, that it is my best thriving Physick, to change the aire, when I thought it would have best agreed with my complexion; And yet if my fate were propitious, and my fortune not a stepdame unto me, I am strongly perswaded, that by your Majesties indulgent grace, and favour, I might soon attain unto a very competent, and comfortable livelyhood by the means of my Profession; for there be three necessary incidents to the well being of a Lawyer, Favour, Learning, and Integrity; and if I were so happy but to attain a small portion of your Majesties favour, I doubt not then to find as much of other mens, as shall well serve my turn; And for my Learning, though it be but little, yet with use and improvement, it may soon prove to be as much as some, that have met with better Fortunes and Preferments then my self, may with a safe Conscience confesse themselves to be guilty of; And for my Integrity, I dare venture to lay my Life to gage, without any hesitation, of which Integrity, Faithfulness, and Sincerity of mine, both toward my Sovereign and Fellow-Subjects, I hope this Treatise hath made some evident demonstration; and yet I may safely say, that the summe of all inserted herein, is but an Epitome of what I have done, said and suffered on the behalf of the Royal right and interest, and I pray God preserve your Majesty from reposing too much credit or confidence in such as have already been, and therefore may hazard again, to prove Praevicators, whensoever the opportunity of their own advantage, or the fear of danger shall draw them thereunto. And now I must calculate to a Conclusion, most humbly imploring your Sacred Majesty to pardon my Zealous presumption, in thus adventuring and contending to expatiate, and make my self known to your Grace: it is the vigour of my *Genius* hath urged me, and without yielding thereunto, I could never subsist, *tranquillo animo*; for the prime intention thereof, is to minister good to others; and if by the means of your Majesties gracious acceptance,

and

and benigne interpretation, any benefit shall befall to me or mine, the glory and praise be given to God alone, who hath already afforded me, the greatest temporal blessing, that ever so earnestly, I had longed after, I mean your Majesties most blessed accessse, to the rightfull possession of your Royal Crownes and Dignities; for as your absence was most irksome, so is your Princely power and presence, most acceptable, to all ingenuous Natures, and loyal and royal Dispositions: I was in the fresh flower of my dayes, when the bright star of your Majestie did first appear, and having now doubled mine age, yet when after so long dark and dismal aspects, I did so happily behold the illustrious brightness and glorious splendor of your Majesties radiant sunshine begin to shew it self upon the late lowring face of our Horizon, I did seem to wax young again, I was in an extasie of joy, beyond my self, and did believe the beak of my Misfortunes was fallen away, and that with the soaring Eagle, I should now renew both mine age, and strength; such pleasant Phantasies did possesse my Spirits: and yet still I cannot conceive, that I do truly live, unless I participate some better warmth and influence by those nutritious and majestic Beams, then is expected from them naturally to descend and be infused upon the rural *pecora campi*: But I am far from doubt and despair, and will never so much fear the frustrating of my own hopes, as that your Majesties Royal fame, and honour, and Pious and Princely endowments, so highly renowned in forein parts, and so well experimented here amongst our selves, should suffer the least eclipse, or aspersions, in permitting any of your Majesties well-meriting Subjects, to be quite neglected and forgotten, to the future discouragement of Truth and Loyaltie in the least degree. But now the glorious and calme Ocean of your Majesties rare and transcendent Imperial Vertues and Graces, so replet with Royal Bounty and Benignity, is abundantly more than sufficient, not only to wash away the discontents, that have a little obnubilated the countenances of some honest and upright men, but also to quench and satisfy the thirst and appetite of all your loyal, loving, and reasonably disposed Subjects; and the Lord
in

in his mercy ever defend and deliver your Grace, from wicked vain and unreasonable men; And I most humbly beseech and invoke that Almighty Majesty and Power of Heaven, that for the advancement of his own glory, the good of his Church, and the felicity, peace and happynesse of these Kingdoms, he will be pleased graciously to grant your Majesty so blessedly and religiously to reign, rule and govern; and your Subjects in general, so christianly, cordially and faithfully to submit and obey, as that after the many vicissitudes of this transitory life, we may altogether attain the most blessed habitation of glory and salvation, in the highest Heavens, to all eternity, by and thorough the merits alone of Jesus Christ, our only most blessed Lord and All-sufficient Saviour, to whom, with the Father and Holy Spirit be rendered all honour and glory, dominion, obedience, power and praise from henceforth, for ever and evermore. *Amen.*

Your Majesties most Loyal, Faithful,

and Obedient Subject, most humbly

devoted to Your Royal Service,

J. Wenlock.

A Short Caution for those that help to Written in
1649.
maintain this rebellious warr against
the KING.

I May take heaven and earth to record, that I have written this, not with any sinister intenc, or prejudicate opinion; but partly for the love that I bear generally to my countrie, partly for the desire I have to confirm such as in these times of wilfull blindness, are not altogether led away with the error of the wicked: but especially in the discharge of my conscience, and dutie towards God, whose command is, *when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.* Luke 22.
32.

That Subjects owe obedience to their Sovereign, the whole consens of Scripture doth agree: The Psalmist resembleth Kings to Gods upon earth: and indeed they have their rule and power by Gods appointment: *Prov. 8. 15: By me Kings reign: and therefore to such as rebell against them, it may be said, as God said to Samuel touching the Israelites, They have not cast thee away, but they have cast me away, that I should not reign over them.* Ps. 82. 6:
1 Sam. 8.
7.

I hope none are so impudent to compare our King to Saul, rejected of God, but if any such be, had they any touch of the grace in Davids heart, then would they yet pray with him: *Lord keep me from laying mine hands upon the Lords anointed; let me intreat them with a single eye and humble spirit, to read the historie of Davids carriage towards Saul, and to remember the wise counsels of Solomon: My sonne fear thou the Lord and the King, and meddle not with them that are given to change, for their calamity shall rise suddenly. The fear of a King is as the roaring of a Lion, who so provoketh him to anger, sinneth against his own soul: 2.3. it is an honour for a man to cease from strife; but every fool will be meddling: an evil man seeketh only rebellion, therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him. The wrath of a King is as the messenger of death, but a wise man will pacifie it: for in the light of the Kings countenance is life, and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain.* 1 Sam. 26
Prov. 10.
23.
Pr 17. 22
Prov. 16:
24. & 19.

Ecc. 8. 2. gain in Eccl. I counsell thee to keep the Kings commandement, and
 3. & 4. that in regard of the Oath of God: be not bastic to go out of his sight,
 and not in an evil thing, for he doth whatsoever pleaseth him: where
 the word of a King is, there is power, and who may say unto him what
 dost thou?

Let us never forget that divine precept of our Saviour, the
 King of Kings, set down in three of the Evangelists; Give
 unto Caesar, the thing that are Caesars: Remember the Apostle of
 1 Pet. 2. the Circumcision; Fear God, Honour the King, and submit your
 3. 14, selves to all manner of Ordinance of man, for the Lords sake, whether
 17. it be unto the King, as unto the Superior, or unto the Governours, as
 those that are sent of him. Observe the decree of the Doctor of the
 Gentiles writing to the Romans, then governed by Nero a
 Rom. 13. most cruell Tirant: Let every Soul be subject to the higher Powers,
 1. 2. for there is no power but of God, whosoever resisteth the Power, resists
 the Ordinance of God, and they that resist shall receive to themselves
 Condemnation. And in the Marginall Notes upon the old
 Translation, it is well observed, that because God is the Au-
 thor of this Order, therefore Rebels must know, that they
 make war with God himself, and cannot but purchase to
 themselves great misery and calamity: For though the King
 hath not Power over the Conscience of man, yet seeing he is
 Gods Minister, he cannot be resisted by any good Conscience.
 And in his Epistle to Titus, he gives a special memento: Put
 Tit. 3. 1. them in mind, that they be subject to the higher Powers, and that they
 be obedient, and the like in divers places of his Epistles.

The King of England, is an absolute Imperiall Monarch by
 the Law, yet he is to govern his Subjects by the Laws and
 Antient Customes of his Kingdome; But the King is the on-
 ly Supreme Power next under God, and so acknowledged by
 all Parliaments, and the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance
 do prove as much; And by a Statute made in 1 of Elizabeth,
 any man is disabled to sit as a Member in the house of Com-
 mons, untill he hath taken a solemn Oath upon the Evan-
 gelists, whereby he doth acknowledge the King to be the on-
 ly Supreme Governour of these Realmes in all Cases whatso-
 ever; And also promiseth, that he will to the best of his
 Power, assist, and defend, all his Majesties Royal Priviledges,
 Preheminences, and Jurisdictions graunted or annexed to his
 Imperiall

Imperiall Crown, and yield his Obedience thereunto. Which Oath how faithfully some do now observe, I leave to the Judgement of God, and their own Consciences.

It is confessed by all knowing men, that a Parliament truly understood, is a Court of the highest Nature, and Authority in this Kingdome, and that it hath power to make and alter Lawes : And that matters there in question are to be decided or agreed on by the Major part of Voices ; But it must not be a Parliament without a Head, not a Parliament rent in pieces, that hath power to do this : For to make any Obligatory Act to bind the Subject absolutely, either in Life, Liberty, or Goods, there must be a concurrence of the Major part of both Houses, with the Kings Royall Assent added thereunto, in whom the Legislative power doth alone consist ; And therefore I know not how any such thing can now be done at *Westminster*, the King being absent, and the farr greater part of both houses, nay almost all the Lords, being also departed, and now joyning themselves with the King in all his designs.

But it will be objected, that many things may be done by Ordinance of Parliament ; I will not deny, but that both Houses of Parliament joyntly assembled, may possibly have power to make Ordinances, for the present good of the Common wealth ; And that these Ordinances may be binding, during the time of that Session : Provided, that they be no wayes contradictory to the known Lawes of the Land ; For the Subject enjoyeth his Life, his Liberty, his Lands, by the antient Customes and Statutes of this Kingdome, which are indeed the fundamentall Lawes thereof : And therefore the Subject cannot be deprived of these rights, but by a Law of as high a nature, and that must be a Statute Law at the least : How then can any man by an Ordinance contradictory to Law, be legally dispossessed of his Liberty, or Goods, which he doth enjoy by the Power of the Law : But some say that these things may be done by Priviledge of Parliament ; And if there be such a Priviledge come to light, that doth over-top all Law, Reason, and Religion, then much may be done. But I beleeve that if any such Priviledge be now found out, that it is as new as the inventers thereof, for venerable antiquity:

their betters in learning and knowledge, never yet heard of any such matter:

It is known to all that have but smelt of the Law, that both by the Common and Statutes Lawes of this Kingdome, it is high Treason to levie Armes against the King, or to be Adherent, or Assistant to the Kings Enemies, and these Laws, when they be once again armed with power, will have a very large construction by the Judges of the Law.

There is a Parliament to be found in historie that did seem to wage warr against a King in this Realm, but what ill success it had, I had rather the Historian should tell you then my self: sure I am, there is an ignominious brand laid upon it to all posterity, for it is still stiled *Parliamentum insanum*.

Prov. 3. *Let no man hate instruction, nor be too wise in his own conceit, be not high-minded, but fear; a prudent man, saith Solomon, fore-seeib the evil, and hideib himself, but fools passe on, and are punished:*
 Prov. 27. *forget not what became of Korah, Dathan and Abiram that re- belled against Moses: yet were they no obscure persons, but*
 11. *princes of their families, and men of great estimation amongst*
 Numb. *the vulgar: remember what was Absolons portion for rebelling*
 16. *against David: and what became of Sheba the sonne of Ricbis*
 2 Sam. 18. *that lifted up his hand against the King, and many such ex-*
 2 Sam 20 *amples in holy Writ? Nay look but into our Chronicles here*
at home, and observe how Gods judgements have still prose-
cuted all them and their posteritie, that have had any hand
in the deposing or opposing of Kings, upon any fair pretence
whatsoever.

To abuse the picture of an earthly King, hath been taken to be a great indignity: how then shall the God of heaven take it at the hands of such as despitefully use and contemn the King himself, a good King that is Gods image and Vicegerent upon earth; but the times are come, that the Apostles foretold, that
 2 Tim. 3. *many in the latter dayes would be traitors, headie and high-minded, pro-*
 4. *sumptuous, and stand in their own conceit, despise Government, and*
 2 Pet. 2. *not fear to speak evil of them that are in dignity. But some say,*
 10 *that this war is not against the King, neither do they intend*
 Jude 8. *him any wrong: indeed they ought not to wish him the least*
 hee. 10. *hurt, for God commands us not so much as to think an evil*
 20. *thought of the King, but these men do more then think, for*
 they

they openly reviled the King, by reproachfull and scandalous speeches, saying, that he is led by bad counsell, and intends to set up Poperie, and can there be any greater aspersion laid upon a Prince, for Solomon saith, *A divine sentence is in the lips of the King, and his mouth transgresseth not in judgement. And it is an abomination to Kings to commit wickednesse, for the throne is established by righteousness.* It is the part of a Christian to judge charitably both of King and of people; but where the subjects go about in hostile manner to invade their Sovereign and his friends and forces under his command; and also use with extreme cruelty, such of the Kings faithfull subjects & friends, as they can get into their power, and yet will aver and maintain, that they warr not against the King, neither intend him any wrong; What to make of their reason or argument, I know not, but a meer solecism; yet the late Oathes imposed upon such, as had so little Grace to take them, do make the meaning both of the matter and manner of their evil intentions of proceeding to be somewhat more plain to be perceived.

Prov. 16.
19, 20.

It is most true, that the King and many of his true Subjects are much abused, for truth is hid in darknesse, and it is the misery of miseries that men are so wilfully blinded and besotted, as their eares are stopped to all good Counsell: Wise men that know the truth of things, are much discouraged to impart the same to others, because they see many are so wedded to their wilfull Errours, that he which in charity goes about to advise them for the best, may sooner himself fall into a snare for his good will, then pull any of them out of the danger that hangs over their heads: for he that now a dayes dares venture to speak the truth, is presently snapt at for a Malignant. But God that knoweth all things, knows that the Kings Majesty hath raised his Forces, and doth maintain this War, only for the beating down of Faction, Schism, and Sedition, and for the upholding of the true Protestant Religion, established in Queen Elizabeths dayes, and under which this Kingdom hath long flourished, and for the settling and maintaining of the true and genuine Laws of this Kingdom: But some dream of a great Reformation now in hand, I am sure there is already a great Deformation, both in Church and Common-wealth; I wish

these

these Reformers would in time un-hoodwink themselves, and see what successe they have had, and learn ere it be too late to be obedient to God and their Prince, following the counsell the Angel gave to *Hagar*, *Return to thy Mistress, and humble thy self under her bands*; and let them endeavour the due Execution of the good Laws that are now in force, lest while they fondly presume to amend that which is well already, they make the word *Parliament* have an ill savour, and open a gap to greater desolation, and so marre all. Indeed it were to be wished there were a more generall Reformation from sin, and God when it pleaseth him will afford us that happinesse, and incline the Kings heart to all occasions playable thereunto: *For the Kings heart is in the hand of God as the Rivers of Water, he turneth it whithersoever he will.*

Gen. 16. 9. And by long forbearing a Prince is perswaded; we must therefore wait the Lords leisure, and seek no Reformation by unlawfull means, for we must not do evil that good may come thereof: But some will now be wiser then Gods word, or at least take Gods power upon themselves; they will have the Kings heart in their hands, and the Government in Church and State must be turned upside down at their becks; and the most deserving bodies in the Kingdom left without heads, at their command and pleasure, or else to Armes they must, forgetting the counsell of the wise, *With good advice shalt thou make Warr*: Alas, these men may a while resist the King, and in the King, Gods Ordinance, but it will be to as little purpose, as *Jannes and Jambres* resisted *Moses*, for there is no wisdom, power, nor policy against the Lord of Hosts.

Prov. 21. 30. And if God for the sins of this Nation should lay that heavy scourge upon us, to take away the Kings Majesties life, and the lives of all his posterity and alliance, (which the Lord in his mercy forbid) then may these men have some likelihood to prevail in their purposes, or otherwise never.

Beloved Countrymen, delude not your selves any longer, the Kings Majesty hath sent forth many Declarations, to open the eyes of your understandings, and to inform you in the truth and equity of his cause; And many Proclamations against your Lives and Estates, for to reclaim you from persisting in your Errours, and also many generall pardons, to win

win you by Love and Clemency : But these are dishonestly hidden, from the sight of many places in this Kingdome, that so the People might still be kept in a cloud of Ignorance and Errour ; Yet who is so blind ? that observeth not the beginning, continuance, and successe of these Wars against the King ; First, set on by petitions in the names of whole Countiees, and none of the understanding part, ever made acquainted therewithall : then by borrowing of Plate, and Money to be repaid with interest, but I doubt not while after doomes day : Then by sending forth voluntary Souldiers, who should make an end of the businesse presently without resistance, but failing herein then continued by pillaging, plundering, and imprisoning, many of the best rank, and soundest integrity, then by notorious Lying Pamphlets, Diurnalls, and Ridiculous reports, invented by the Devil ; and now at last by pressing and compelling men to turn Rebels, against the Law both of God and Nature ; and by killing some to terrifie others : If this murdering, and robbing of honest men, (for their distraining of mens goods is no better) and if the leaving of whole Families destitute of comfort and maintenance, that have a long time relieved others, if the skaring of men from Gods Church, from their Wives, Children, Estate, and Professions, because they will not go against their Conscience, be Christian charity, Righteous dealing, and love one towards another ; let any upright man judge, if it be not, then let them mark what St. John saith, *In this are the Children of God known, and the Children of the Devil, John 3. whosoever doth not love righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his Brother.* 10.

Beloved, let us make Gods word the ground of our Actions, we know some generall Counsells have erred, and the great and Learned Assembly of the Jewish Rabbies, were much mistaken in Crucifying the Lord of Life. And there be some now that are esteemed Gods Messengers, but they are ignorant and seditious Hypocrites, and false Prophets, that speak evill of that they understand not, and by their deluding of the People have wrought and fomented much mischief ; They have forgotten, *That he that turneth away his Ear from hearing the Law, even his Prayer shall be Abomination :* Jude 8. 10. Prov. 18. 9, 10.

And

*And he that causeth the righteous to go astray in an evill way, he shall fall himself into his own Pit; And indeed without great repentance, the lowest pit of Hell, will be a just reward for such Wretches, I fear it; I give but a glimpse of these things, and yet speak as plainly as I can to the understanding of the the meanest; let him that shall cast his eye hereon, do as the men of Berea did in *Acts* 17. 11. search narrowly whether these things be true or no; and if he reaps any good hereby, I have my desire, Consider what I say, and the Lord give you understanding in all things. Amen.*

Acts 17.
11.

2 Tim 1.
7.

Upon



UPON THE Rumps Eclipse.

Written in Febr: 1659.

ALL Royal Loyal Christian hearts rejoyce
 And chaunt *Hosanna* with a chearfull voyce,
 Extoll that happy Planet doth Presage
 A Tragy-Comedie on our *English* stage;
 Let all the Muses in our Hemisphere
 Loud Echoes ring with an harmonious chear,
 And celebrate with sage *Apollo's* lipps,
 The gladsome *Omen* of the Rumps Eclipse.
 Truth's Mathematicks ever sung the Story,
 That God at length would vindicate his glory,
 And give the proudest Rebels late so jolly,
 The *Sodom's* fruit of all their frantick folly,
 And make that Tribe intoxicate in brain
 The symbole of our Liberties again.
 Methinks the Constellations make us smile
 And leap for joy this present Bissextile:
Babel will down, the Nurse of all Confusions,
 Which fed Illiterates with such damn'd delusions;
 For Justice strikes, and Vengeance cries aloud,
 When Sinners grow most obstinate and proud,
 When wicked men do flourish most secure,
 Their sinnes a sudden deluge do procure.

S

Befotted

Befotted *England* feels the curble pinch,
 And like to *Aesop's* horse doth kick and winch,
 And being ridden till their backs do break,
 Like *Baalams* Ass at last begin to speak.
 Poor apish Zealots now they see too late
 The sad effects of mad Sedition's fate;
 Rebellion is the Devils bosome sinne,
 And he at first that Witchcraft did begin,
 Which ruin'd all, by force of Faction fosters
 And jugglings of Schismatical imposters;
 But now the vulgar see with clearer eyes
 And these deforming Hypocrites despise
 Their long dear bought experience sadly feels
 A Government that madly runs on wheels,
 Now down, then up, then tottering like to fall,
 How can it stand that hath no leggs at all?
 That Body's witch'd with some fatal charmes,
 That loves to rest on nothing but his armes,
 With Head recurved, as asham'd to see
 The Heavens to blush at stolid Treachery;
 When lower parts mount higher than the Crown,
 That Structure needs must headlong tumble down.
 A proper Project likely to prevail,
 That sets the Head beneath the sinking Tayle:
 Such Policy was used here full oft,
 And this advanc't the rampant Rump aloft.
 The Heads erection yet the Poet sings,
 And Learning true declames for lawfull Kings.
 Amongst the Wise it is a Maxime sure,
 Usurping Tyrants never long endure;
 And what more pleasant Theme to *English* Slaves,
 Than manumission from a pack of Knaves:
 No higher Trophies can this Nation raise,
 Nor ever merit more renowned praise,
 Nor yet secure on our backs their fleeces,
 But by the rending of this Rump in pieces.
 And let no simple Soul remain perplext
 In doubt or fear what Government comes next.

No fowler Monster can afflicke this Age,
 Unless the Devil himself comes on the stage;
 But if he should, he knows his doom so well,
 He durst not act such Villanies out of Hell,
 His proper Center, where he's yet a King,
 Though here his rump can challenge no such thing.
 For were they not of all the World the shame,
 The Sons of Wrath, and ignominious Fame?
 Had they not been from Mothers womb accurst,
 They would have known their Sovereign *Charles* the first,
 And were they Christians, and their Oaths of force
 They must confesse the second comes in course:
 For what can hellish Instruments invent
 Against so just a legal true descent,
 Confirm'd by nature, law, religion, reason,
 Oppos'd by none, but th' Imps of Schisme and Treason;
 A generation of degenerate Spirits
 That fear destruction for their foul demerits,
 Yet rather seek to damne both Body and Soul,
 Than Regal justice should their Acts controul,
 That patroniz'd their perjuries and lyes
 With all the shifts the Devil could devise.
 What streames of Bloud have barbarously been spilt
 To shield and cover the infernal guilt
 Of Monsters mad? whom Nature may deplore
 Beyond all Tyrants ever bred before:
Pilate an Heathen urged by the Jews
 To judge to death *Christ Jesus* did refuse,
 Upbraiding them for craving such a thing,
 With *Ecce*, shall I crucifie your King?
 And had he dream't the Godhead was his Father,
 Then shed his bloud he would have perisht rather;
 But these did know the Father and the Son
 Were lawfull Monarchs of this Region
 By just succession, and did make the Oath
 Of true Allegiance, often to them both
 And their Successors; yet they martyr'd one,
 And forc'd the undoubted Heir from his Throne,

By which injustice they contend in vain
 To rob and kill their Sovereign once again;
 A President beyond abomination,
 And never heard of since the Worlds creation.
 The Turk and Pope may lay the Bucklers by,
 Scarce conscious yet of such base cruelty:
 And therefore these flesh fiends without compare
 In Antichrist may claim the greater share;
 Such Cacodemons scarce were ever found
 In *Africk*, *India*, or the *Welkin* round,
 Whose bloody base enchantments, with outcries
 Proclaims their guilt to all posterities,
 Whose iron stony hearts shall feel the fates
 Of all their sins, as holy writ relates;
 Whose Tyrannies shall tumble down and lye
 Prostrate on earth, sans hope or remedy:
 No rout nor rabble runs unto their aide;
 The People will no longer be betraide
 With vizards false; for now the time is come
 That *Atbaliah's* shall receive their doom,
 That *David's* tribe triumphantly may reign,
 And *Aaron's* sacred rod may bud again;
 Yet let us only praise *Jacob's* power,
 Who now in mercy doth begin to shewre
 His grace and love on such an Ethnick land,
 So long hath stoop'd to the usurpt command
 Of Idols base, with filth so overgrown
 Whom neither nature, art, nor law can own.
 Whose treasons and exactions spring from thence
 Renders them Tyrants void of common sense,
 Whose damned projects and prophane desires
 May fear a doom as fierce as *Sodom's* fires,
 Whole horrid barbarous measure by them dealt
 Deserves more plagues than ever *Aegypt* felt;
 Whose scourge the Devil would hardly undertake,
 Were he not forc'd their Process for to make;
 And whose Religion, had they power alone,
 Would quite devest th' Almighty from his Throne.

No sin to Satan can be so coherent
 As murder of their King the Lords Vice-gerent :
 But these have far endeavoured to excell
 In all their plots the Beelzebub of hell,
 They outvied Lucifer, whose highest aime
 Was with the Godhead but a share to claime :
 But here their Sovereigns Kingdoms were too small
 To gorge these kites, they must have life and all,
 Because his Christian conscience was so loath
 To violate his Coronation oath,
 And yield consent with wolvisb Tyrants power
 The Church to rob, and Common-wealths devour.
 That painting proud *Zidonian Jezabel*,
 Just *Naboth* from his Vineyard did expell,
 Spilling his blood, and yet upon pretence
 He had blasphem'd his God, and Sovereign Prince;
 But these o're-flowed in their outrageous spleen
 Accursed *Abab* and his bloody Queen,
 Enforcing most their freedoms to redeem,
 Because they would not God and King blaspheme,
 And made all feel their Tyrants raging rod
 That would not fight against their King and God.
 Yet after all these bloody-dy'd distractions,
 This spawn of hell would justify their Actions.
 O horror never heard of, damned Crue,
 Can ever earth afford them vengeance due ?
 No sure there is decreed for such men
 A mansion dark in the infernal den,
 Where they shall strongly guarded be about,
 And dwell secure from being turned out.
 Their Guardians there will constant be, and ring
 In their sad ears the murder of their King
 And loyal Nobles, Gentry, and the rest,
 Devour'd and torn by that prodigious beast
 Begot in hell, where Justice shall resound
 A just reward to every member round,
 Where damn'd oppression of our royal race
 May spout sulphurious blood into their face,

VWhere all the hellish mischiefs they have wrought
 Shall be revealed, and to Judgement brought,
 And execution as befits their sin,
 Where torments endlesse evermore begin;
 And where for all their jealousies and fears
 They shall have payment of their full arrears :
 And yet if *Grigg* should misse of them his meed,
Tyburn again would wear a mourning weed,
 Should it but lose the guerdon of such Elves,
 As would have all men Traytors like themselves,
 That robb'd all Subjects of their goods and lands,
 That durst withstand their devillish commands,
 Who merit far more solid hempen frumps,
 Than the poor senselesse sheeps, and bullocks Rumps
 Hung up in figure, where they pine, untill
 The Saints they cypher do their rooms up fill.
 O Lord that true repentance may prevent
 The just deserts of that mock Parliament,
 Hath caus'd that name to scent as bad as hell,
 Which yet in former Ages relisht well;
 And Oh that others might be struck with terrors,
 And humbled for their sordid sottish errors.
 The Lawyers purse deserves a sharp incision
 For acting Justice by *Jack Cades* Commission:
 'Tis tenter'd law, too rigid and too brief,
 A lawlesse Traytor to condemn a Thief.
 They're none of *Plowdours* kindred, nor of *Cokes*,
 Such Doctrine's neuter unto all the books ?
 The Country Justtise, Maior and Recorder
 How retrograde have they been out of order ?
 Intruding with the basest adulations,
 To court Rebellion in her several stations.
 But who at first refin'd these rural Wits ?
 Metropolis of all our frensie fits.
 Th' Apostate Clergy needs must have remorse,
 That us'd Religion like a stalking horse,
 To drive on Faction, with a dull designe
 The settled Hierarchy to undermine.

I hope they see that Schisme and fond division
 Hath made them emblems of the Worlds derision,
 Deserve they not more than a moderate mulct
 That forg'd for *Rome* a season to insult
 On our Religion, that was well before
 That hair-brain'd Rebels it in pieces tore ?
 When Presbyters nor Independents name
 Were no such pillars in our Churches frame,
 All innovations both in Church and State
 Spring up too soon, repented are too late:
 A monstrous horrid wonder 'tis to see,
 That such as dare professe Divinity
 Should be with such a Lethargy beset
 The principle foundations to forget.
 Such in a darksome labyrinth are lost
 As slight the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 The Decalogue, Lords Prayer, and the Creed,
 These new-come Teachers cannot say nor read.
 Why ? do not these the word of God remain
 Beyond the fancies of a crazy Brain ?
 Hath not *St. Paul* such phantasies forbod
 As please the People, and dishonour God ?
 Yet mock fasts and prophaner gratulations
 Were cryed up within these mole-eyed Nations;
 To these the vulgar with devotion flocked,
 Not once remembering God would not be mocked,
 Or that their zeal of knowledge so bereft
 Vvas but a loathsome sacrilegious theft,
 Robbing of God of his divine applause
 To set a varnish on the Devils Cause;
 For Truth did never yet approve it good
 To render thanks for shedding Christian blood,
 Or when the wicked were resolv'd to sin,
 They should with fasts and prayers first begin;
 These were the Devils subtle sole inventions,
 To mask and colour the obscene intentions
 Of all his perjur'd agents, plung'd in woe,
 For temporizing and blaspheming so,

For calling darknesse light, and bitter sweet,
 For blazing Treasons without all regret:
 Who did not Conscience nor Allegiance tender,
 But *Judas*-like betray'd their Faith's defender,
 VVhom next to *Jesus Christ* they did dilate
 A Supreme Governour in the Church and State.
 Are they not void of true Religion's sense
 That dare not preach against that foul offence?
 VVhat Christian heart that doth not sore lament,
 VVho lives on earth that needs not to repent?
 Our crying sins from Gods impartial hand
 Have pull'd these Plagues on this unhappy Land;
 But God will lend a more propitious eye,
 If we this Rebel-devil do despise,
 And frame our practise by *St. Peters* tenor,
 To fear our God, and earthly King to honor;
 For it in truth we long to take delight,
 VVe must relinquish all Rebellion quite,
 And to the Lawes both Humane and Divine,
 Our Hearts estrang'd obedience must incline:
 And if we wish good dayes, and happy chance,
 Our Second *Charles* his Name we must advance.

Gloria Deo Soli.

*In honour of the Birth day of his Royal
Majesty King CHARLES the
II. With an Encomium upon the Lord
Generall George Monk.*

Written in May 1660.

YOu mournfull Muses of these *Brittish* Isles,
Now cast off care, and deck your face in smiles;
Advance your tones with melody to sing,
And celebrate the Birth of *CHARLES* our King:
Let Bon-fires burn, let Princely musick play,
This Halcyon happy twenty ninth of *May*,
When God these Nations with a Prince did bless,
Virtue and true Religion to profess:
Whose Valour and endowments to rehearse,
Would daunt the Monarchs of this Universe;
And whose decreed as my fancy rings,
To place his Throne above all Earthly Kings;
And give Religion a bright lustre, far
Beyond the force of any *English* Star;
And Christian Faith that's Orthodox, defend,
So far as *Phœbus* shall his beams extend.
'Tis for some high design, that this brave Prince
So long hath been preserv'd by Providence;
A chosen shaft in the Almighty's quiver,
To pierce the *Pope*, and make the *Turk* to shiver.
Then let's salute his Grace with state and glory,
And not forget to sing the famous story
Of him who hath so instrumental been,
To welcome King and Government agen;
That brave old *Heroe* that hath shined forth
So rarely from that late unlucky *Norib*;
And let no loyal *Scot* his Bag-pipes lay
Obscure, so long as he hath breath to play;

T

Let

Let *English, Scottish, Irish* sound his praise,
 Give holy *Monk* a Crown of Sacred Bayes :
 Were I but of the *Romish* Churches dition,
 I sure should doat on Monkish Superstition ;
 Howsoe'er the name I needs must honour still,
 With a true genius and efficacious quill,
 And will no more account *St. George* a fiction,
 Since *George* is *Englands* Champion in affliction ;
 The first with courage stout, did once repair
 To succour *Sabra*, Eshnick *Ægypt*s Hair ;
 With Sword and Lance he did the Dragon quell,
 But this hath quencht the fire-brands of Hell ;
 Such *Hydra* Monsters, as his labour's more
 Then *Hercules* had e're perform'd before,
 And by his prudent valour made a way,
 To dump our darknesse, and to spring the day
 Of all our hopes, and made us bold to render
 Our true Allegiance to our Faiths Defender.
 What Subject lives in all our *English* quarter,
 That merits more to wear the *George* and Garter ?
 In honours Emblems he may share a part,
 Hath born so much their Motto in his heart ;
 Our Sovereign sure will have regard to such,
 As have adventur'd and deserv'd so much,
 And may his off-spring to perfection come,
 And prime their Fortunes till the day of Doom ;
 And may they flourish with renown, the rather,
 As Branches off so just a Loyal Father :
 May the just Guerdons of such Royall *Idlers*,
 Confound the projects of all bloudy *Neroes* ;
 May showers of grace descend with Heavens amends,
 On our brave King, and all his faithfull Friends ;
 And Christian mercy, and true justice meet,
 Reciprocall in every publick street :
 And that these blessings may these Realms besall,
 Let's cry to God Creator of us all.

Let City, Town, and Country ring,
 With Echoes loud, **GOD SAVE THE KING.**

John Winlock

*Written by the Author about the year 1644. and
sent to his Wife, when she and his Children were
in great want and calamity together.*

Dearest Companion of my blooming years,
The memory of whose Virgins love appears
Still fresh and pleasant in my constant mind,
As when my thoughts to love were first inclin'd;
Accept this kindnesse I thee gently pray,

A Token true my Love doth not decay:
Religious Love is constant firm and sure,
Grounded on Truth that ever shall endure,
When frail affection by each slender Crime
Shall blemisht be, and quite outworn by time.

But think not loving Soul, that time or trouble
That change of Fortunes or Afflictions double,
That Youths decay, that frustrate hopes or losses,
Domestick Jarrs, or all such wedlock crosses,
Or all thy Feminine frailties ever can,
Make me to thee a false unconstant man.

No, I resolve in love to live and dye,
And leave Memorials of my Constancie
To my Posteritie, which may them guide
An honest Wife to honour like a Bride.

Upon her Nuptiall day, when Friends agree
To Crown her Fortunes with felicity.

Even so I wish (God knows) with all my power,
To cause thy true content each day and hour
That I shall live, and what hath been amisse
Between us, Love, let's quit our selves in this,
That for thy failings thou shalt pardon have,
And the like grace as thy sweet hands I crave:

This Christian course will make affection truer,
Sweeten our Sorrowes and Gods love procure.

If we endeavour our defects to mend,
And for relief on Christ alone depend;
This will us arme against the Worlds assaults;
And sweetly cover all our former faults.

This will a comfort to our Conscience be,
 What better blessing in Extremity?
 No refuge here like Faith, no stay so sure,
 No reason Earth without a Conscience pure:
 But having that, Gods Angels all agree
 To guard our Tents, and we shall blessed be;
 In spite of Enemies of degenerate mind,
 In spite of Fortunes frown or Friends unkind;
 In spite of all Oppression fraud or guile,
 In spite of rapine schisme and treason vile:
 Though Satan rage and all that hellish rout,
 From all afflictions God will help us out.
 Afflictions cup our Saviour drank before us,
 And he again to comfort can restore us:
 If we with Faith, and patience wait his will
 As he hath done he will protect us still;
 Which grace Jehovah grant us to our end,
 So prays thy Spouse, thy Loyal Faithfull Friend.

J. Wenlock.

*Written to a Gentlewoman about the year 1643.
 from whom the Author had then received a
 Letter of some very harsh news.*

Virtuous and Honour'd Lady, if my quill
 Had Virtue to expresse my hearts good will,
 Not all the Worlds distractions could prevent
 My Muse from flowing to your sweet content;
 In high strain'd Poem, which in spite of Fear,
 Might lend you courage to abandon care:
 And force a sweet smile from that lovely face,
 That Embleme true of Modesty and grace;
 But these sad noises in the Lawyers Skull,
 Do make his Poets fancy wondrous dull;
 Yet to tell truth, there is no reason why
 This dull brain'd Fellow should not verifie:
 For to a private Friend tis known full well,
 He hath dwelt these three Months in a Hermits Cell:

Where

Where the sole disport of his desert placing,
 Is though a Nuptiall yet a stole embracing;
 And time he hath (God wot) to ruminate,
 Concourse of businesse early, not yet late:
 Do trouble him, whose practise is so small,
 No Angell Client, vexeth him at all;
 The Coynes impression he doth hardly know,
 He scorns Temptation by that golden show:
 The Wisdome of the State breeds this contrition,
 Pictures, and Crosses, now are superstition:
 This makes him smile at all his former crosses,
 So long as Rebels meet with greater losses;
 And that their malice makes his soul incline,
 To Faith more firmer in the Powers Divine:
 For this I publish to my comfort great,
 When the Worlds Fortunes did me best intreat;
 I never had of Sin so much conviction,
 Never such joy in Christ as in affliction:
 I never was of Grace, of Heaven, so sure,
 Oh the blest Banquet of a Conscience pure!
 My fancy now frames to the Scriptures tone,
 Cœlestiall raptures ravish me alone:
 Yet when I saw those quick conceited lines,
 Of your respect and worth the sugred signes,
 Those Symptomes of a disposition sweet,
 Where Bounty, Wit, and Curtesie, do meet;
 Those indeed relicks of more sacred merit,
 Then can deciphe'd be by my dull Spirit;
 How did my thoughts, my heart, my fancy skip,
 How oft I kist them with adoring lip:
 And least my rude neglect should give offence
 To you the type of Natures excellence,
 My frolick muse was prest at your command,
 That my devoted verse might kisse your hand;
 And that to you a faintlike Friend so dear,
 His loyall thankfull heart might still appear,
 That scorns with Ladies to remain uncivill,
 In spite of *Vulcan*, *Prickear*, or the *Devill*:
 But hopes ere long to be that happy man,
 To laugh with you and Noble Mistris *Anne*:

That Virgins vertuous pattern whom I honour,
 So oft's, my winged thoughts reflect upon her ;
 And leap I shall at liberty and truce,
 To see my kind Phisitian Mistress *Lucea*
 To all that Worthy house I live a debtor,
 Ever more thankfull as my Fortunes better :
 To your sweet self a truer Friend to try,
 Then Prose or Poems pen can testifie,
 Living, your Loving Kinsman, servant sure,
 In what his Life, and Fortunes can procure.

J. Wenlock.

Upon his late Majesties

EIKΩN ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ. 1649.

THis Enchiridion to the Publick, brings
 A Chrystal Mirrour for all Christian Kings.
 Here may they see Religions truth and lustre,
 All Royal Vertues crescent on a cluster;
 Here may they learn their Judgements to incline,
 To what is Prince-like, Morall, or Divine.
 Conscience and Nature by a mutuall strife,
 Have Grace and Goodnesse pictured to the life :
 Such faith, such hope, such love is not excell'd,
 Such perfect patience who hath parallel'd ?
 Such Zealous care for Subjects, so ingrate,
 Conquers his sufferings, kills his Enemies hate :
 A pious Prince his passions sole Commander,
 Transcends in worth Victorious *Alexander* ;
 He got but Greatnesse, earthly Kingdoms, drosse,
 This, Glories Crown to recompence his losse.
 His Sacred memory still shall draw its breath,
 In spite of Malice, Faction, Devil, Death :
 Let none in suffering for his sake be sorry,
 But live ambitious of his Heavenly Glory.

J. Wenlock.

The Authors
ACROSTICHIS
 UPON THE
LATE TROUBLES.

Written in 1643.

JN measure here the Universe may find,
Of these distracted times, this Authors mind;
His Vote is all for peace, but force of Hell,
Never shall blinde his Conscience to Rebell.

Wisedome esteems all falshood and Sedition,
Even as the spawn of Envy, Pride, Ambition;
No wholesome fruit from a pernicious Tree,
Let fond deluded wights expect to see.
Oh guide me therefore, Sacred power Divine,
Can Death affright me if my soul be thine?
Knows not a Christian that his sufferings small,
Endeare himself to Christ, his all in all?

*Upon Prince R U P E R T S Tears
 pretended to be shed at*

MARSTONE MOOR. 1644.

BRave high Heroick *GERMAN* Prince, shall I
The true admirer of thy Valour, spy
A mournfull tear bedew th' undaunted Face
Of Honours dearling, and of *English* race?

The

The second *Helior* ; and shall then my Muse,
 As thunder-struck, oblivious or abstruse,
 Want her Allegiance to that Royall Stem,
 Whence sprung thy Noble self, thou Princes Gem?
 Oh no it cannot, it will rather dye,
 And deluge hopes in dull obscurity :
 For whilst my breath doth last, or verse hath vent,
 To sound those honours is my clear intent ;
 Though now in sable weeds I sympathise,
 With that condoling dew fell from thine eyes :
 But was it Tears ; Oh tell me gentle Prince ?
 Let love interrogate without offence ;
 Or if your Grace be pleas'd to graunt this same,
 That I the Asker may an answer frame,
 I'll soon obscure those Tears, and make a Vow,
 'Twas valours Dew, that hung upon thy browe :
 And made thy Royall face with wet abound,
 Whilst thou like *Mars* didst thunder beat the ground ;
 For can a Tear oppresse that Princely eye,
 The sprightfull fire whereof enough to drye
 Up all those melancholick mists that now o're-run
 Those darkned Dens bereft of *Englands* Sun :
 But were they tears did from thine eye distill,
 'Twas not for fear of Rebels force, or skill :
 But thy religious Soul might mourn to see
 So brave a Nation dote on misery ,
 Foment their ruine , and in such a rout,
 As Vipers gnaw their Mother's bowells out :
 A pious heart where Virtue's lodg'd within,
 Must needs condole, lament, and weep for sin ;
 This was the Cause if thou didst shed a tear,
 Nothing but this can make thee mourning weare :
 Thou art too highly built, too bravely bred,
 At sad Disasters to hold down thy Head :
 Thy valour doth out-dare them, thee they shun,
 Their eyes thou dazlest like a glorious Sun :
 I hope ere long to feel thy pleasant rayes,
 And see thee Crowned with victorious Bayes.

*Animadversions upon the wilde Satyrs that ramble
about our English Forrest.*

Written in 1641.

IF Libels be allow'd by Law,
How great ones need to stand in awe?
VWho is so high, so stout and jolly,
But Poets pens will paint his folly?
Earls, Bishops, Judge and Counsellor of State,
Are subjects now to every riming pate.

If these be pillars of the Land,
When they for Truth and Justice stand,
That State must needs to ruine fall,
When such as these grow worst of all;
The Body's sore at a dolefull point,
When such great Members are so out of joynt.

None can be void of errors here,
Though carefully his course he steer,
But he deserves a hempen twist,
That doth in malice still persist,
In Church or State his poyson to infuse,
His native Prince, and Country to abuse.

Such hearts I wish the Lord would turn,
Before hell fire do them burn,
Though Policy scape Justicerod,
Vengeance it must expect of God;
Who in this life, or in the World to come
Will render all a just reward and doome.

Then let not men in frantick fits,
So rashly exercise their Wits,

V

And

And be so hatefull or uncivil,
 To damn Delinquents to the Devil,
 Before their faults they perfectly do know,
 Or what contrition in their hearts they show.

It argues but a Judgement raw,
 To judge sans censure of the Law,
 For he that grossly hath offended,
 Must not be hang'd before condemned;
 And for my part I know no reason why
 Men should be hang'd in lines of Poësie.

And yet some things have been amisse,
 And by experience I have learned this,
 That when the flesh begins to blister,
 'Tis time the Body had a glister,
 And would to God our State were purg'd of such
 As fancy pomp, and self-conceit too much.

Though some have been advanced high,
 And little good hath come thereby,
 But to themselves a shamefull fall,
 Yet let's not rashly censure all,
 Or hold a sacred office in contempt,
 Though some therein have been of Grace exempt.

A godly Bishop I adore
 I wish of these we had good store;
 But he that smelleth in opinion,
 Of *Romish Caiphas*, or *Arminian*,
 In *Tyber* floud I wish his Barge a swimming,
 Or else on *Tower-hill* his Head a trimming.

A loyal Peer that leads the Land
 Religious laws to understand,
 That ventures Honour, Life and Bloud
 In Truth's behoof, and Countrie's good :
 If honors wait not on him night and day,
 Injustice wrongs Desert the World may say.

But

But he that's trusted by his Prince,
 And makes no Conscience by offence
 At home, or else in foreign places,
 To breed distractions and disgraces.
 On *Irish* earth I wish the Serpent lay,
 Till's bowels burst, and poyson ran away.

An upright Judge I dearly love,
 And Truth will ever such approve,
 Because they help the poor oppressed,
 And succour lend to the distressed;
 In Common wealth they are a peerlesse Gem,
 True Subjects therefore still will honor them.

But if that any of that Tribe,
 Corruptly loves to take a bribe,
 Or doth for favour fond out-face
 An honest man, or honest Cause,
 I wish their hides in hands of Leather-dressors,
 That they might Cushions line for their Successors,

Were Favourites false exil'd the World,
 Projectors to the Devil hurl'd,
 Or had a taste of *Tyburns* check,
 With Monopol packets on their neck,
 Industrious spirits then would look to thrive,
 And thus the State their safety might contrive.

But things so out of order are,
 And coyne and favour stretch so far,
 Ingenuous men of worthy parts,
 Must needs have discontented hearts:
 And nought more dangerous to the State we find
 Than discontentment in the Subjects mind.

But what makes troubles to begin?
 What brings afflictions? only sin.
 'Tis not the Mitre, Hood, or Gown,
 That doth alone pull Judgements down: V 2 Some

Some nicer Heads that with them little health,
Are as ill Members in the Common-wealth.

A Garment white the Conscience pricks,
The Service-book in Stomack sticks,
Yet he that doth the same deprave,
I never knew him but a Knave.

The Crosse command in Baptism stifferh some,
And these they think awak'd the *Scottish* Drum.

No crying sins of young and old,
Make Judgements hot, and Mercie cold,
In Schisme and self-conceit men wallow,
They fly a gnat, and Cammels swallow :
At Ceremonie now more Stomacks rise,
Then 'gainst all sins the Devil can devise.

In Church we have so many Sects,
They will produce some strange effects;
The Anabaptists 'gins to brave,
And so will each fantastick Slave.
If some in power do not rowse themselves,
And send to hell in time such peevish Elves.

To rise and stand in this our gap,
We need no Pope, nor Cardinal's cap;
Our Sovereign's heart the Lord up raise,
Jesiah-like to mend our dayes.
And when we see that blessed Reformation,
Glory and peace shall crown our *English* Nation.

Certain News when these Wars shall have an end.

Written in 1643.

When God will vouchsafe to open mens eyes,
That Gospel and Law they leave to despise :
When all the degrees of age and of youth
Will learn to obey and honour the Truth :
When Gods holy Word is right understood,
And that which is naught, no longer thought good :
When men are ashamed of Folly and Treason,
And bow to the rules of Religion and Reason,
When Scripture is made the ground of mens actions,
In spite of peevish schismatical Factions:
When Rebels and Traytors are laid in the lurch,
And there's not a lye more told in the Church :
When Pulpits to good men are void of offence,
And are no more Theaters of railing Non-sence :
When proud prick-ear'd Rascals, sent from the City
To cant to the Roundheads a devilish ditty,
Are whipped for Rogues, and mark'd in the Faces,
And honest Divines restor'd to their places :
When *Cade* and *Jack Straw*, proud *Parry* and *Kett*,
With Powder and Bullets have gotten the fret;
Or when they be hanged on Gibbets like Slaves,
Then Peace will appear in spite of the Knaves :
When men will no longer dissemble with God,
But stand to the Truth, for all the black rod :
And boldly declare it in every place,
Not fearing the looks of a treacherous face :
When Conscience awakes men out of a Trance,
And Justice and Truth, her Head doth advance :
When true Subjects get of Valour a smack,
And fear not the Threatnings of every *Jack*;
But rouse up their courage, and boldly disdain
In bondage to Skums any more to remain :
When Traytors are made a scoff and a scorn,
And never a Rebel dares put out his Horn :

But keep within compasse of duty : and then,
 When Fools are no longer esteemed Wise men :
 When Constables learn to understand Law,
 And leave to serve Warrants not worth a straw ;
 And when they sup no more dangerous Broath,
 Bat mark and beware, and remember their Oath :
 When they be no more deluded by lyes,
 But Treason appears as clear as the skies :
 When People no longer lick poysoned Honey,
 To surfeit their Hearts, and forfeit their Money ;
 Bat learn to abstain from damned Abuses,
 And spend their Estates on lawfull good uses :
 When every man seeks peace to his power,
 And will not continue a Traytor an hour,
 But hate and detest these damnable Jarrs,
 The Devil's the Author of trayterous Warrs,
 When People no more run out of their Wits,
 Bat blush at their foolish Phanatical fits :
 When rich men are wise, and take modest courses,
 And give not a peny to Parliament forces,
 But let the good Spirit that set them on fire,
 Both cherish their zeal, and pay them their hire :
 When he that is cause their malice so rages,
 Hath license from Heaven to pay them their wages;
 Then shall we deride their practises vain,
 And Peace and the Gospel shall flourish again :
 When royal King *Charles* dispenses with pity,
 To curb in good earnest the treacherous City;
 Of peace and of quiet there were a good token,
 So soon as that nest of Harpies be broken :
 Or if the old birds were fled and departed,
 The young ones perhaps might prove better hearted :
 When God of his goodness vouchsafeth to send them
 His spirit of Truth and Grace to amend them :
 When Faith and Obedience in *England* do dwell,
 And Faction and Treason are damned to Hell :
 Then shall we have Peace, that blessed good thing,
 If men would be subject to *G O D* and their *K I N G*.

Upon our Royal Queens Majesties most Happy Arrival,
 the most Illustrious Donna Catharina,
 sole Sister to the High and Mighty
 King of Portugall.

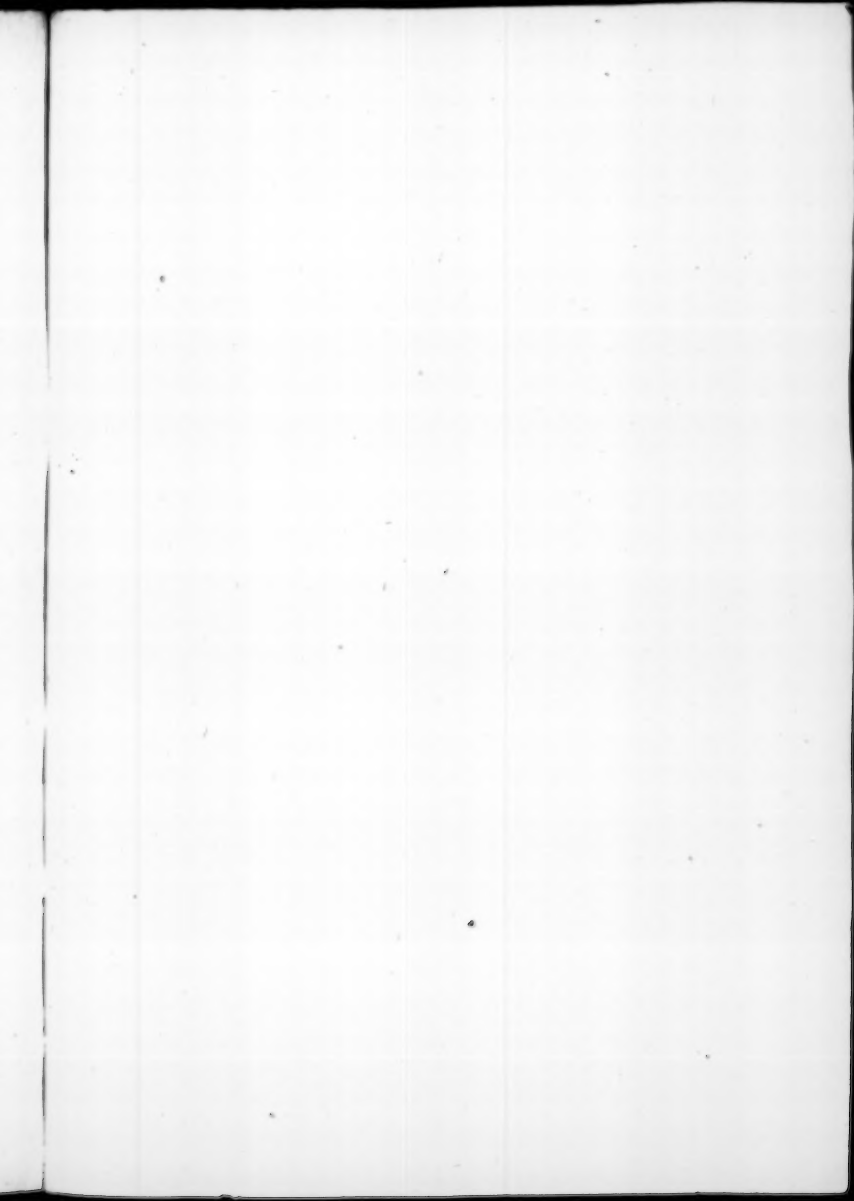
THe Princely Muses do my Fancy move,
 To consecrate a Verse to that blest Love,
 That Royal Queen of Grace, and great command
 Espous'd to *Charles Le Bon*, and *Charles Le Grand*,
 Prophetickly by him so well design'd,
 Who was with Heavenly knowledge so refin'd:
 Heaven guard them Both together, and reflect
 That influence of Favour, to protect
 That Sacred Nymph, whose Passage did so please
 The Eternal God of Heaven, of Earth, and Seas,
 To welcome Her with Complemental Ditties,
 Echoes of Joy rebound in Court and Cities:
 And lest the lowest place true love should want,
 Or we be deemed of Devotion scant;
 Lo I presume alone from Country Caves
 To come and honour those *Neptunian waves*
 Have brought us home with such propitious gales
 A Princely Mother to a *Prince of Wales*;
 Whomay (my *Genius* thinks) in time outvye,
 The richest Gems of Glorious Chivalry:
 And equalize in worth, if not exceed
 The bravest *Heroes* of our *British* breed:
 And with *Pegasean Frigats* lowdly roar
 At the proud banks of that *Iberian* shore:
 And with triumphant Valour once again
 Set up his Standard in the Realms of *Spain*:
 And with a Crown of Fortune there resume
 A Trophee, like the brave *Bohemian* plume;
 And by victorious Virtue still advance
 That Princely House of *Portugal*, *Bragance*:

To

To *Englands* High renown; and in despite
 Of all such Foes as dare against them fight,
 May our *Imperial Lion* rampant stand,
 With the bless'd *Unicorn* at his command,
 Who by his secret Virtues may confound
 All *Poysons* in the Springs of *English* ground :
 That being Crown'd at home with perfect Peace,
 His glories through the world may still increase :
 Great Princes shall adore his *Royal word*,
 And Nations tremble at his *conquering sword*;
 Then *Forreign* parts will fear our force; and then
 Our Sovereign shall be stil'd, *The King of Men*;
 And may his Dearest Consort blessed be,
 With all rare fortunes of *Felicity*;
 The grace of *Heaven*, the prime delights of *Earth*,
 Make Her the *Mirror* of Content and Mirth,
Celestial Angels guard her free from harms,
 Sweetly embraced in our *Soveraignes* armes;
Heaven guide her grace, and make her truly seen,
 Of Beauty, Wit, and Majesty the *Queen*,
 A fit Consort to please the good desires
 Of such a Prince, whom all the *World* admires;
 And may this Princely payre rest in Love,
 More firm and constant than the *Turtle Dove*;
 Gods grace their Lives both prosper and protect,
 And in the end Their souls to *Heaven* direct;
 And grant them here that Quintessence of glory,
 Was never read in any *CÆSARS* Story;
 That After-ages may of them rehearse,
 A glorious Wonder to the *Universe*.

By John Wenlock of Lincolns
 Inne, Esquire.

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